

IRISH 1798 COLLECTION

Statistical Account

OF THE PARISHES OF THE KINGDOM OF IRELAND

IRELAND

A
Statistical Account
OR
PAROCHIAL SURVEY
OF
IRELAND.

Statistical Account

of the Parishes of the Diocese of Glasgow

Vol. I.

Statistical Account

of the Parishes of the Diocese of Glasgow

IRLAND.

A

Statistical Account

OR

PAROCHIAL SURVEY

OF

IRELAND,

DRAWN UP FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS OF THE CLERGY,

By WILLIAM SHAW MASON, Esq. M.R.I.A.

REMEMBRANCER AND RECEIVER OF FIRST FRUITS, AND
SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF PUBLIC RECORDS.



*"Attamen audendum est, et veritas investiganda, quam si non omnino
assequeremur, tamen propius ad eam, quam nunc sumus, tandem pervenimus."*

VOL. III.

DUBLIN:

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1819.

Statistical Account

OF

PAROCHIAL SURVEY

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TO

GEORGE ROBERT DAWSON, ESQ.

REPRESENTATIVE IN PARLIAMENT FOR THE COUNTY
OF LONDONDERRY,

&c. &c. &c.



SIR,

THE attention which you have bestowed in Parliament on subjects connected with this part of the Empire, would, of itself, afford sufficient grounds for prefixing your name to one of the volumes of a work intended to convey a minute knowledge of its resources. When to this are added the many obligations that I experienced from you in its commencement, in your official situation here during the administration of Mr. Peel, its liberal and indulgent patron, both public

and private motives combine to render me anxious to have the honor of inscribing this volume to you, and of availing myself of this opportunity of expressing the esteem and respect with which

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your much obliged,

Faithful humble Servant,

WM. SHAW MASON.

P R E F A C E.



ALTHOUGH the publication of the present volume has been postponed much beyond the period anticipated by the compiler, it has been to him a pleasing reflection, that the delay was not connected with any want of assistance from that highly respectable class, to which it has been so much indebted both at its commencement and during its continuance. Communications have been received from the Clergy to an amount that would supply materials for several volumes ; so that should the difficulties that have impeded its progress be removed, accounts could be immediately put to press of a number of parishes sufficient to justify the expectation of a speedy and complete termination of the whole work.

Whatever may be the fate of this attempt, whether the author has been justified in his hope of its ultimate completion, or has overrated the

general desire for acquiring accurate and detailed information respecting this important member of the British empire—and he trusts he may be allowed to say, without an imputation of over-partiality towards a favorite object, that minute and detailed information is the only kind which, in such a case, is truly useful—whether he shall succeed in completing the Statistical Survey of Ireland, or be under the necessity of terminating his labours with the present volume, he has the satisfaction of having already attained some points which, though of comparatively minor estimation, are sufficient to justify him for the step he has taken. One of these is, the proof obtained of the practicability of such an attempt, if carried on under more favorable circumstances. The assertions of those who had pronounced on the impossibility of executing such a work in this country from the disinclination or want of ability in the class that was looked to, in the first instance, as the best source of information; or the want of encouragement from the public; or the excess of the labour and expense above the means of an unassisted individual;—all these, except the last, have been disproved by the event.

A second point anxiously looked to by the compiler has, he trusts, been also attained, namely, that every stage of the work should afford data for forming conclusions as to the circumstances, productions and resources of the entire country.

He might have commenced with a single county or diocess, and having completed it, proceeded in like manner to another ; but he thought it better, and public opinion has confirmed him in the correctness of his judgment, by selecting parishes from every part of the country, to make each volume contain descriptive traits of different districts, from which the reader might collect a general view of the whole, incomplete indeed at first, but approximating, as the work advanced, to perfection.

By adhering to this plan the three volumes now published may be considered as a supplement to the series of County Surveys, undertaken by the Dublin Society : and both series taken together, may be safely said to be the most extensive and authentic stock of materials, whence future writers can deduce correct inferences, as to the present state of the country in several of its most interesting particulars.

The County Surveys commenced immediately after the Union. It has been the desire of the compiler of the present work, that, at the termination of the twentieth year from that memorable era, the period which the legislature had marked for the complete incorporation of the two islands, the Parochial Survey should have advanced so far as to afford sufficient data for general conclusions affecting the whole country. In this he flatters

himself that he has also succeeded. Should, therefore, his apprehensions of a premature termination to this his pleasing though laborious task, be unhappily realized, while he is compelled to turn his eyes from the pinnacle of perfection which he has so long and so ardently contemplated, he will do it with the consciousness, that, though he has failed in completing the edifice in its intended dimensions, he has not left it a rude and unshapely mass of materials, but a miniature, a sketch of what he feels confident, will, at no distant period, be completed to the full extent of his most sanguine anticipations.

Under the impression of the circumstances in which this volume of the Survey is presented to the public, the Author feels it his duty to take the opportunity now afforded of acknowledging the many obligations conferred upon him. Among the earliest and most valuable of his correspondents he is proud to mention the name of Sir JOHN SINCLAIR,* whose previous work excited him to this undertaking, and was the model which in

* The best proof of the value of Sir John Sinclair's labours and of the results derivable from the completion of a work like the present survey, may be found in the "Result of the Right Hon. Sir John Sinclair's Survey of Scotland," on which the following observations were published in *THE DUBLIN JOURNAL*, by a gentleman to whom the compiler has other acknowledgements to make in these pages.

"We have this day inserted a very important document,—it is the "Result of the Inquiries regarding the Geographical, Agricultural, and Political state of Scotland," by Sir JOHN SINCLAIR.—This abstract is accompanied by what he calls "The Pyramid of Statistical Inquiry," with an explanation.

its progress he has imitated. At a time when war was desolating the whole civilized world, this

It is impossible not to admire the indefatigable industry of this truly great man, which has, through a long life, been unceasingly directed to objects of the highest value. The false glory of the warrior—the pretensions of the Statesman—have—too long—led the world astray, have too frequently imposed upon the sober reason of their fellow-men, who, indeed, have erroneously ascribed excellencies to them which they do not actually possess.

The object of Government is, or ought to be, to enable the People to enjoy the greatest possible advantage, derivable from their circumstances. Although the hackneyed expression “The Majesty of the People,” may be justly treated with contempt, it is yet undeniable, that the existence of any Government depends upon the will of the People, for the good of whom, it was not only originally instituted, but has been subsequently upheld.

It, therefore, follows, that those measures which are best calculated to promote individual happiness, and to augment national wealth, are the only true legitimate objects to which the Rulers of Mankind ought to direct their attention. The duty of Governors and the interest of the Community enforce this obligation.

The Theories which have hitherto misled Statesmen, for as yet but few nations have made much progress in the Science of Legislation, have proceeded from ignorance, and not from any intention to do mischief.

All the errors of the European Governments have emanated from their ignorance of the circumstances of the People, and the Countries over which they have ruled. The folly of FERDINAND, for instance, is depopulating Spain, but certainly we would not ascribe to him any deliberate intention to ruin his Country. No—his errors, and the errors of all others, who have misruled Nations, spring from their ignorance of the true interests of the People. But knowledge cannot be intuitively attained—it is the result of experience—and what is experience, but the comparison of facts—an analysis of the whole physical and moral capabilities of the Country.

Sir JOHN SINCLAIR, by a process of this kind, has fully unfolded the whole resources of an interesting portion of the Empire, whether depending upon man or upon inanimated nature. He has laid open to the view of the Statesman the entire capabilities of his native Country, by a series of most important documents. He first analysed Scotland, by “an accurate description of every Parochial District,” contained in twenty-one volumes of Reports—he next “procured detailed accounts of the Agricultural State, and political circumstances of the several Counties or larger Divisions,”—

true patriot devoted himself to the improvement of the agricultural resources of Great Britain,

and, finally, he condensed the extensive mass of information, thus obtained, in a Work, entitled, "THE GENERAL REPORT OF SCOTLAND," which consists of three volumes, with two of Appendix, and comprehends the substance of all the information collected in the former publications, amounting to fifty large volumes octavo, closely printed.

As every circumstance, relative to Scotland—connected with the People, the land, and the waters, is thus developed, the Government can have no difficulty in legislating for it, and of drawing, in the form of taxation, such part of its resources as it can fairly afford, without injury to the reproductive powers of the Country.

The abstract, we have given, presents some extraordinary results, which, if not well authenticated, could scarcely be credited.

It appears that Scotland possesses, only 1,804,864 souls, or about one-third part of the *supposed* population of Ireland; and yet in the year 1813, (the period at which the Report was completed) the people paid 4,204,097*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* of net revenue, exclusively of the expense of management and drawbacks. This comparatively immense sum amounts to within about half a million of the net revenue of Ireland, and it exhibits, most clearly, this important fact—namely—that the people of Scotland are able to bear a rate of Taxation exceeding that of Ireland in the proportion of three to one, or in plain language, a Scotchman pays three pounds to the State, for every one paid by an Irishman—and by the same rule, Ireland, instead of paying only 4,822,264*l.* 13*s.* 11½*d.* of net revenue, which was the amount in the year 1813, ought, on this account alone, to afford 14,466,798*l.* 1*s.* 10½*d.* annually, without burdening the people more heavily than they are in Scotland. But Ireland enjoys local advantages superior to those of Caledonia, in as far as her soil and climate are more favourable to the productions of the earth.

But, in comparing the circumstances of the two countries, there is another consideration of the utmost importance that bears upon the question. The total extent of Scotland includes nearly nineteen million of English acres, of which only 5,043,000 are fully or partially cultivated. The total extent of Ireland may be estimated at more than twenty millions of English acres, of which 15,000,000 are fully or partially cultivated. Here we find that the people of the latter country have the superiority over those of the former, in the proportion of nearly three to one, in all that relates to the products of the soil, which are, in fact, the primary source of national wealth.

and by his unremitting exertions turned the public mind so strongly towards this great national

In regard to the quality of soil and climate, Ireland possesses an advantage over Scotland that may be estimated in the proportion of three to two—in reference to her capabilities for manufactures, she may be supposed equal; but in relation to facilities for commerce she again has the superiority; and, without calculating minutely, it may be fairly stated—that the resources of Ireland exceed those of Scotland, as three to one, in calculating from population—as three to one in extent of productive soil—and as three to two in the quality of that soil. It, therefore, follows, that if the capabilities of Ireland were equally well brought into action as those of the sister country, the revenue of the former should amount to about six times the revenue of the latter, or to something about twenty-five millions sterling, without the people of Ireland being more heavily loaded with taxes than those of Scotland, and, at the same time, they ought to enjoy a similar degree of comfort and happiness, which is not the case. Without, however, carrying the statement to the full amount it might seem to bear, we shall renounce a great part of the sum, and say, that Ireland could have afforded from twelve to fifteen millions of net revenue, if her moral and physical resources had been properly employed.”

GENERAL REPORT OF SCOTLAND.

STATISTICAL TABLES; OR, RESULT OF THE INQUIRIES
REGARDING THE GEOGRAPHICAL, AGRICULTURAL
AND POLITICAL STATE OF SCOTLAND.—1817.

1. EXTENT.

	Land.	Square Miles. Fresh water lakes.	Totals.
1. Main Land of Scotland,	25,520	494	26,014
2. Hebrides, - - -	2,800	104	2,904
3. Orkney Islands, - -	425	15	440
4. Zetland Isles, - - -	855	25	880
	<u>29,600</u>	<u>638</u>	<u>30,238</u>

2. CLIMATE.

East Coast.

	Days.
1. Average number of days of rain and snow, - - - -	135
2. Fair Weather, - - - - -	230
	<u>365</u>

object, devised or discovered so many means of working to advantage this never-failing mine of public wealth, that he may be considered as mainly contributing towards the supply of the

<i>West Coast.</i>								<i>Days.</i>
1. Average number of days of rain and snow,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	205
2. Fair Weather,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	160
								<hr/> 365
Difference of fair weather in favour of the east coast,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70

3. WINDS.

<i>East Coast.</i>								
1. From the North,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
2. North-east,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
3. East,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62
4. South-east,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
5. South,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
6. South-west,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	105
7. West,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	102
8. North-west,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
								<hr/> 365

<i>West Coast.</i>								
1. Points from east to west by north,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	197
2. From west to south,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	139
3. From south to east,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
								<hr/> 365

4. THE MOST CELEBRATED MOUNTAINS IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES, AND THEIR HEIGHT ABOVE THE LEVEL OF THE SEA.

	<i>Feet.</i>
1. Benevis, (Inverness-shire, the highest in Scotland,)	4370
2. Benmacdounie, (Aberdeenshire,)	4300
3. Cairngorum, (Banffshire,)	4060
4. Benlawers, (Perthshire,)	3787
5. Benyvis, (Ross-shire,)	3720
6. Cruachan, (Argyleshire,)	3390
7. Lowthera, Lanarkshire, (the highest inhabited place in Scotland,)	1564

enormous sums, necessary for carrying to a successful termination, the vital conflict in which the British empire was then engaged. He has, indeed, received his reward—he has completed his

5. PRINCIPAL RIVERS, AND THE EXTENT OF TERRITORY
FROM WHICH THEY DERIVE THEIR WATERS.

	<i>Square Miles.</i>
1. Tay, - - - - -	2596
2. Tweed, - - - - -	1870
3. Spey, - - - - -	1300
4. Clyde, - - - - -	1200
5. North Dee, - - - - -	900
6. Ness, - - - - -	850
7. Forth, - - - - -	840
8. Lochy, - - - - -	530
9. Nith, - - - - -	504
10. Findhorn, - - - - -	500

6. CELEBRATED LAKES, AND THE SIZE OF EACH.

	<i>Square Miles of Surface.</i>
1. Loch Lomond, (Dunbarton and Stirling,) - -	45
2. Loch Awe, (Argyle,) - - - - -	30
3. Loch Ness, (Inverness,) - - - - -	30
4. Loch Shin, (Sutherland,) - - - - -	25
5. Loch Mari, (Ross,) - - - - -	24
6. Loch Tay, (Perth,) - - - - -	20
7. Loch Arkieg, (Inverness,) - - - - -	18
8. Loch Shiel, (Inverness,) - - - - -	16
9. Loch Lochy, (Inverness,) - - - - -	15
10. Loch Laggan, (Inverness,) - - - - -	12

7. STATE OF PROPERTY.

	<i>Number of Proprietors.</i>
1. Large properties, or estates above 2000 <i>l.</i> of valued rent, or 2500 <i>l.</i> sterling of real rent, - - - - -	396
2. Middling properties, or estates from 2000 <i>l.</i> to 500 <i>l.</i> of valued rent, or from 2500 <i>l.</i> to 625 <i>l.</i> of real rent, - - - - -	1077
3. Small properties, or estates under 500 <i>l.</i> of valued rent, or 625 <i>l.</i> of real rent, - - - - -	6181
4. Estates belonging to corporate bodies, - - - - -	144
Total number of Proprietors in Scotland, - - -	7798

structure; he has lived to witness the increase of his reputation, and to receive the assurance that posterity will do him ample justice.

8. PROPORTION OF SOIL CULTIVATED AND UNCULTIVATED.

	<i>Eng. Acres.</i>
1. Number of acres fully or partially cultivated, - -	5,043,050
2. Acres uncultivated, including woods and plantations, -	13,900,550
Total extent of Scotland in English acres, - -	18,943,600

9. EXTENT OF WOODS AND PLANTATIONS.

	<i>Eng. Acres.</i>
1. Extent of plantations, - - - - -	412,226
2. ——— natural woods, - - - - -	501,469
Total, -	913,695

10. NATURE OF THE PRODUCTIVE SOILS IN SCOTLAND.

1. Sandy Soils, - - - - -	263,771
2. Gravel, - - - - -	681,862
3. Improved mossy soils, - - - - -	411,096
4. Cold or inferior Clays, - - - - -	510,265
5. Rich clays, - - - - -	987,070
6. Loams, - - - - -	1,869,193
7. Alluvial, haugh, or carse land, - - - - -	320,193
	5,043,450

11. NUMBER OF ACRES IN ONE YEAR, UNDER THE DIFFERENT CROPS, OR IN FALLOW.

	<i>Acres.</i>
1. Grass, (in hay and pasture,) - - - - -	2,489,725
2. Wheat, - - - - -	140,095
3. Barley, - - - - -	230,193
4. Oats, - - - - -	1,260,362
5. Rye, - - - - -	500
6. Beans and peas, - - - - -	118,000
7. Potatoes, - - - - -	80,000
8. Turnips, - - - - -	407,125
9. Flax, - - - - -	16,500
10. Fallow, - - - - -	218,950
11. Gardens and orchards, - - - - -	32,000
	5,043,450

To the support bestowed on this work by its patron, the Right Hon. ROBERT PEEL, it may be said to owe its existence; since without the sanc-

12. VALUE OF CROPS.

	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>per Acre.</i>	<i>Amount.</i>
1. Grass lands, - - -	2,489,725	at £2	£4,979,450
2. Wheat, - - -	140,095	at 11	1,541,045
3. Barley, - - -	280,193	at 8	2,241,544
4. Oats, - - -	1,260,362	at 7	8,822,534
5. Rye, - - -	500	at 6	3,000
6. Beans and peas, - -	118,000	at 6	708,000
7. Potatoes, - - -	80,000	at 8	640,000
8. Turnips, - - -	407,125	at 4	1,628,500
9. Flax, - - -	16,500	at 8	132,000
10. Gardens, - - -	32,000	at 15	480,000
Productive acres, - - -	4,824,500	Produce, £	21,176,073
Fallow, - - -	218,950		
Total cultivated, - - -	5,043,450	average per acre,	
(including fallow,) 4 <i>l.</i> 4 <i>s.</i> nearly.			
Uncultivated 13,900,550, including woodlands, 3 <i>s.</i> per acre,			2,085,082 10 0
Total land produce, - - -		£	23,261,155 10 0

13. LIVE STOCK, AND THEIR PRODUCE.

1. Horses, 243,489, value of their work when full grown, or increase in their work, while young, yearly, at 10 <i>l.</i> each, - - -	£2,434,890
2. Cattle, 1,047,142, annual value of dairy produce, and annual increase in the worth of the feeding cattle, at 6 <i>l.</i> each, - - -	6,282,852
3. Sheep, 2,850,867, - - -	1,425,983
4. Hogs, 500,000, produce 30 <i>s.</i> each, - - -	750,000
5. Lesser stock, (poultry, &c.) - - -	250,000
Total produce of live stock, - - -	£11,143,725

This sum is included in the general estimate of land produce already given.

14. MINERAL STATE.

Coal.

	<i>Acres.</i>
1. Extent of the great Coal-field of Scotland, - - -	600,000
2. Annual Consumption, - - -	172

tion of his name and the facilities of communication with its numerous correspondents which his official situation enabled him to afford, and which his liberality prompted him to extend to it, the un-

3. Quantity annually consumed in tons, - - - -	2,500,000
4. Value of the Coal annually consumed, at an average of 6s. 8d. per ton, - - - -	£833,333 0 0
5. Expense of labour, 5s. 10d. per ton, - - -	729,166 10 0
6. Rent to the proprietor, 10d. per ditto, - - -	104,060 10 0

Lime.

1. Quantity of lime annually manufactured in Scotland,	<i>Bolls.</i> 3,000,000
2. Quantity in Winchester bushels, at 4 bushels per boll,	12,000,000
3. Value at 2s. 6d. per boll, - - - -	£375,000
4. Extent of land annually dressed with lime, - - -	<i>Acres.</i> 100,000

Iron.

1. Number of blast furnaces - - - -	21
2. Quantity annually produced, - - - -	32,760
3. Value at 7l. per ton, - - - -	£229,320
4. Number of persons annually employed, - - -	7,650

Lead.

1. Number of bars of lead annually produced, - - -	65,000
2. Annual Value at 2l. per bar, - - - -	£130,000

Value of Mineral Productions.

1. Coal, - - - -	£833,333
2. Lime, - - - -	375,000
3. Iron, - - - -	229,320
4. Lead, - - - -	130,000
5. Various articles, - - - -	30,000
	<hr/> £1,597,653

15. FISHERIES.

1. Salmon and fresh-water fisheries, - - - -	£150,000
2. The white sea fishery, - - - -	400,000
3. The herring fishery, - - - -	500,000
4. The whale fishery, - - - -	200,000
6. Shell fish, - - - -	50,000
	<hr/> £1,300,000

dertaking could not have been attempted. Strongly as the author has already endeavoured to express his sentiments of grateful respect to this enlightened Friend of Ireland, yet he trusts he may avail

16. AMOUNT OF TERRITORIAL PRODUCTIONS.

1. Gross produce of land, - - - - -	23,261,155 10 0
2. Minerals, - - - - -	1,597,653 0 0
3. Fisheries, - - - - -	1,300,000 0 0
	<hr/>
	£26,158,808 10 0
4. The rents of lands, mines, fisheries, kelp, &c. for one year, ending 5th April, 1813, - - - - -	5,041,779 11 11
5. Amount of produce absorbed by the expense of cultivation, and the profit of farmers, gardeners, and other dealers in the productions of the soil, also by colliers, fishermen, &c. - - - - -	£21,117,028 18 1

17. MANUFACTURES OF SCOTLAND.

	<i>Value of raw material.</i>	<i>Total value of manufactured articles.</i>	<i>Expense of labour and profit.</i>
1. Woollen,	£300,000	450,000	150,000
2. Linen,	834,149	1,775,000	940,851
3. Cotton,	1,832,124	6,964,486	5,132,362
4. Inferior branches,	1,300,000	5,000,000	3,700,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£4,266,273	14,189,486	9,923,213

18. COMMERCE.

1. Number of ships belonging to Scotland, - - -	2,709
2. Tonnage, - - - - -	231,273
3. Number of seamen, - - - - -	16,300
4. Exports, - - - - -	£4,740,239
5. Imports, - - - - -	3,671,158
	<hr/>
6. Balance in favour of Scotland, - - - - -	£1,069,081

19. THE POOR.

1. Number of Parochial Poor, - - - - -	36,000
Average allowance to each, - - - - -	3s.
	<hr/>
Total expense, - - - - -	£108,000
Average expense of maintaining the poor in workhouses,	8l. 10s.

20. POPULATION.

	<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Increase.</i>
1. Population,	1755	1,265,380	
2. Ditto,	1799	1,526,492	261,112

country shall again call Mr. PEEL to a post suited to his talents and energies, the good of that part of the empire in which he so well established his

25. ECCLESIASTICAL STATE OF SCOTLAND.

1. Number of synods,*	16
2. Number of presbyteries,	78
3. Number of parishes,	893
4. Number of established clergymen,	938

26. RELIGIOUS PERSUASIONS.

1. Established Presbyterian Church,	1,408,388
2. Seceders from the Established Church of various descriptions, but all holding presbyterian principles,	256,000
Total Presbyterians,	1,664,388
3. Separatists of various persuasions, as Baptists, Bereans, Glassites,	50,000
4. Roman Catholics,	50,000
5. Scotch Episcopalians,	28,000
6. Methodists,	9,000
7. Church of England,	4,000
8. Quakers,	300
	141,300
	1,805,688

27. REVENUE OF SCOTLAND.

1. Revenue at the Union 1707,	£110,694
2. Additional taxes then imposed,	49,306
Total revenue at the Union,	£160,000
3. Revenue of Scotland, anno 1813,	£4,843,229 12 11
4. Expense of management, drawbacks, &c. -	639,132 5 2
5. Net revenue of Scotland,	£4,204,097 7 9
6. Increase since the Union,	4,044,097 7 9

28. PROPERTY TAX PAID BY SCOTLAND.

Gross Rental on 5th April, 1811.

<i>On Lands, Mines, &c.</i>	<i>On Houses.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
£4,792,842 13 2	£1,158,777 7 4	£5,951,620 0 6

Gross Rental on 5th April, 1813.

<i>On Lands, Mines, &c.</i>	<i>On Houses.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
£5,041,779 11 11	£1,243,609 9 3	£6,285,389 1 2
Increase in two years,		553,769 0 8

* Including the presbytery of Zetland, which is invested with synodical powers.

claim to the title of Statesman, will be among the primary objects of his attention.

The reader will easily perceive, that in some of the above tables, it is only possible to approximate to the truth; and that in several other cases, there must be a perpetual fluctuation. But every exertion has been made, to render them as correct as possible, and to give, within a moderate compass, a general view of the geographical, agricultural, and political circumstances of Scotland.

On the whole, it appears, that Scotland is a valuable and flourishing portion of the British Empire; and from the intelligence, skill, and industry of its inhabitants, it is daily increasing in prosperity and wealth.

THE PYRAMID OF STATISTICAL INQUIRY.

3

The General Report of Scotland.

2

The County Reports of Scotland, containing 33 Districts.

1

The Statistical Account of Scotland, containing 893 Parishes.

1. The Statistical account of Scotland, commenced in May, 1790, and was completed in 1798.

2. The Publication of the corrected county Reports, commenced in June, 1795, and was completed in 1814.

3. The General Report of Scotland, commenced in 1811, and was completed in 1814.

To complete these several undertakings, required, in all, a period of about Twenty-four Years, and the assistance of above One Thousand Individuals.

LAUS DEO FINITUM.

EXPLANATION OF THE PYRAMID OF STATISTICAL INQUIRY BY SIR JOHN SINCLAIR.

The object of the pyramid is, to explain the nature of a new system. "That of making extensive inquiries the basis of condensed information," by means of which, the information and talents of numbers of intelligent individuals may be combined in the formation of one great work—and useful knowledge, the real source of national prosperity, may not only be rendered more complete, but, when ultimately brought within a moderate compass, may become more generally accessible.

To his successor in office, the Right Hon. CHARLES GRANT, the compiler is indebted for a continuance of those facilities; thus evincing, as he hopes, an approbation of a design, the good effects of which Mr. Grant has had the best opportunity of appreciating in his native country.

The first practicable illustration of that system, in its perfect state, is now given in *THE GENERAL REPORT OF SCOTLAND*.

1. It was "the Statistical Account of Scotland," a work which furnishes an accurate description of every Parochial District in that part of the United Kingdom, amounting in all to 893, which laid the foundation of that laborious undertaking.

2. To procure detailed accounts of the agricultural state, and political circumstances, of the several "counties or larger divisions," of which there are 33 in all, was the next step taken in the progress of the work.

3. But the great difficulty still remained, that of condensing, within a moderate compass, a mass of information, contained in fifty large volumes octavo, closely printed. That, however, is now happily accomplished in this General Report, which, though reduced to three volumes octavo, with two of Appendix, yet comprehends the substance of all the information collected in the former publications. With such a work to consult, a British Statesman is enabled to form as just an idea of the general circumstances of Scotland, and the means of its improvement, as a proprietor usually acquires regarding his own private estate. By adopting the same plan, in regard to England, Wales, and Ireland, what advantages might not accrue to those countries?

The practicability of carrying this system into effect being thus ascertained, instead of its being restricted to agricultural or political topics, it ought to be extended to every other branch of useful knowledge. By minute inquiries, many valuable facts and observations might be collected, which would otherwise be lost—and by adopting the plan of condensation afterwards, more advantage would be derived from the information thus acquired, than could be obtained from undigested loads of literature.

In its present state, knowledge may be compared to a small portion of gold, dispersed throughout a great quantity of ore.—In that rude condition, the strongest man cannot bear its weight, nor can any benefit be derived from it; but if the pure metal were separated from the dross, even a child might carry it without difficulty, and it may be used with advantage.

The Author's obligations to the CLERGY of IRELAND are more than he can express. While they have evinced their extensive knowledge and learning, they have proved their willingness to render important services to their country.

"Semper honos, nomenque tuum laudesque manebunt."

It is obvious that a work of this magnitude could not have been conducted without much assistance; for this purpose, several of the compiler's literary friends, anxious to promote an object, from the completion of which they conceived many benefits might accrue to the country, agreed to form themselves into a Committee in order to aid him in the arrangement and publication. The names of three of these gentlemen are already before the public, in the pages of this Survey, each of them having contributed a preliminary essay on a subject intimately connected with its objects. WALTER THOM, Esq. Author of the History of ABERDEEN, and a contributor to the Edinburgh Encyclopedia, and to Sir JOHN SINCLAIR'S great work, "The general Report of Scotland," has enriched the first volume with a Synoptical View of the Principles of Political Economy,—a branch of science, a correct and practical acquaintance with which, can only be attained through the medium of Statistics. To EDM. HYDE HALL, Esq. an English gentleman, the work is indebted for the elaborate and ingenious

Analysis of the Contents of the Down Survey, the value of which important document, his essay has made more generally known.* The manner in which a subject, apparently dry, and by many deemed uninteresting, has been treated in this Essay, must excite a strong wish in the mind of every well-informed person for undertaking a similar survey on a scale commensurate with the whole country:—an undertaking, by which only, can a true estimate be formed of the strength and resources of this important division of the empire. The Rev. EDWARD GROVES † has contributed to the volume now published an Essay respecting the Population of Ireland, calculated to afford fresh lights on a subject equally essential as the last mentioned, to the vital interests of the

* Mr. Hyde Hall is the author of a valuable tract, entitled, *Suggestions towards the Improvement of the Education of the Lower Classes in Ireland*. He has also prepared a *History of Carnarvonshire*, which is now ready for Press, but its publication has been, and it is to be apprehended will be long delayed, in consequence of a chronic attack with which he was visited shortly after he had made this country the place of his fixed residence. It is not easy to say whether the public or his friends, will be the greater sufferers, by this melancholy visitation; the former have been deprived by it of the exertions of an active mind and discriminating judgment, all whose bearings were directed to promote the improvement of this his adopted country—the latter will long deplore the loss of a friend, whose benevolence of disposition and urbanity of manners were so brilliantly set off by an exuberant splendor of conversational talent, that rendered his society a copious and never-failing current of intellectual enjoyment.

† This gentleman has announced a work on our national Bibliography, somewhat similar but more extended than Bishop Nicholson's *Irish Historical Library*: such a publication has long been a desideratum in our literature and for which his habits of laborious investigation and his literary oppor-

country. To JAMES HARDIMAN, Esq. the author of the History of Galway, the work is indebted for several illustrations of the antiquities of the country, a department of national literature which his bent of studies has peculiarly qualified him to embellish. JOHN C. ERCK, Esq. author of the Irish Ecclesiastical Register, a work patronized by most of the dignitaries of the church, and in the hands of all the clergy, as an invaluable manual of information, is one of these gentlemen to whose persevering and disinterested labours the compiler is, in like manner, indebted. He hoped to have had to name another, to whom he can now only pay the tribute of grateful and sincere regret, JAMES JOHNSTON, Esq., a young Barrister, who at the moment in which he was beginning to enjoy the benefits of a profession, for which he had prepared himself by an indefatigable course of self-

tunities peculiarly qualified him. Mr. Groves's name is also well known in this City, as an active and zealous promoter of several benevolent Institutions, and particularly of the ASSOCIATION FOR SUPPRESSING MENDICITY. He was also the acting Secretary to the BELFAST ACADEMICAL INSTITUTION at its commencement, and for several years afterwards. This singular undertaking originated with a few merchants in that spirited and enterprising town, on a fund of about 15,000*l.* raised wholly by private Subscriptions. The foundation stone of its buildings was laid in 1810, and in the short period that has since elapsed, it affords instruction to between 3 and 400 elementary, and 140 collegiate pupils. It now consists of two Schools, one for Classical, the other for English Instruction, besides Schools for Arithmetic, Writing, Modern Languages, &c. and has established professorships in Chemistry, Natural Philosophy, Moral Philosophy, Belles Lettres, Natural History, Hebrew, Greek and English, besides two on Theology, suited to the different tenets of the Pupils intended to be prepared for the Ministry in this Seminary.

acquired instruction, and had given a promise of talents that must have done honor to himself and reflected lustre on his friends, was prematurely snatched away by a violent fever.

Although the compiler feels himself called upon to avow his peculiar obligations to the constant undeviating assistance of the friends now named, he would be equally unjustifiable were he to do so to the exclusion of many others by whom he has been encouraged or supported in this undertaking, either by literary assistance, by affording facilities of communication, or by extending his sources of information; among these, he is proud to mention the names of the Right Hon. Sir John Newport, Bart. Sheffield Grace, Esq. William Gregory, Esq. Under Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, Sir Charles Wm. Flint, of the Irish Office, Thomas * Nowlan, Esq. John Brebner, Esq. Alex. Mangin, Esq. Dublin Castle, and Edward S. Lees, Esq. Gen. Post Office.

* Two Institutions which promise to be of singular utility to the country have originated from Mr. Nowlan's indefatigable and well-directed exertions for the improvement of his country. The first is the **FEINAGLIAN INSTITUTION** in Dublin, in which a system of Education, founded on correct principles, has been introduced for the benefit of the higher classes; the other, the **MERINO FACTORY**, at Stoneyford, in the County of Kilkenny, the moral discipline of which has fully proved, not merely the practicability of carrying on the finer branches of woollen manufacture by means of the Irish peasantry, but the still more important fact of the facility of introducing habits of morality, industry, and forethought among that class, which the shortsighted or prejudiced inquirer has too often pronounced to be incapable of mental improvement.

Under these impressions, and influenced by the emotions he has endeavoured to convey, the Author of the Statistical Survey presents this volume to the Public, to whom he would be unjust were he to withhold the expression of profound and respectful gratitude for their favorable reception of the former parts of the work. He has found in them zealous friends and indulgent censors, attributing much to good intention and allowing much for the difficulties of execution. If he is enabled again to appear before them, it shall be with renewed exertions to improve what may have been deemed merit, and to correct the defects of his production; if otherwise, he has the consolation, upon closing his labours, to feel, that though he may not have accomplished all he wished, he has endeavoured to do something for his country.

RECORD TOWER,

DUBLIN CASTLE;

November, 1820.

SOME ACCOUNT of the PROCEEDINGS taken in 1813 and 1814 to ascertain THE POPULATION OF IRELAND, pursuant to an Act of Parliament passed in 1812; together with A SKETCH of the attempts previously made to attain the same object; and also AN ACCOUNT of the result of AN INQUIRY made during the same period, to ascertain the proportion of the Protestant and Roman Catholic Inhabitants of Ireland; drawn up by the Rev. EDWARD GROVES, for the STATISTICAL SURVEY of IRELAND.

SIR WILLIAM PETTY estimates the population of Ireland in 1672, at 1,100,000 souls. His calculations are founded on the number of hearths, or as he quaintly terms them, smoaks; but as his book affords no means of ascertaining the certainty of his data, the accuracy of his inference must rest upon the writer's character for intelligence and veracity. If however, in forming a judgment on this point, it be considered, that the account of the number of houses on which the calculation rests, was in all probability taken from the official returns of the officers engaged in collecting the hearth-money tax, and that the proceedings of this department of the revenue were then less open to public inspection, in consequence of its management being let to farm—if also it be recollected that the tract of Sir William, which supplies this information, is a posthumous work, evidently unfinished, and avowedly published in the imperfect state in which it had been found at the author's death, a calculator of the present day will be very cautious in forming deductions from such premises. 1672.

The next attempt was made by Capt. South in 1695, and the result was communicated to the Royal Society, by whom it was published in the volume of their transactions for 1700–1701.* It is grounded on a poll tax, returns of which are stated for three Counties and for the City of Dublin, and an average struck for the rest of the kingdom, according to the first quarter's assessment. This account, however defective and inaccurate, is the only one which can be gleaned from the writer's details, which are of themselves extremely brief. The total is made to amount to 1,034,102 souls. 1695.

* Phil. Soc. Trans. No. 261. Vol. 22, . 520.

1731. In 1731 the progress of "Popery" attracted much of the attention of the legislature, and, amongst other curious information, produced a return of the number of inhabitants in each county made by the parochial clergy, in obedience to an order of the House of Lords. Mr. Newenham, in his valuable "Inquiry into the progress and magnitude of the Population of Ireland," deems this return sufficiently accurate for practical purposes; he does not adduce his reasons. It gives a population of 2,010,221 souls. It appears from the Journals of the House of Lords, that this enquiry had been carried on simultaneously through two channels, the magistracy and the established clergy, and that the latter was preferred as being of greater accuracy.

1736. In the year 1736, an anonymous pamphlet appeared, intituled, "An Abstract of the number of Protestant and Popish families in Ireland taken from the returns made by the hearth-money collectors to the hearth-money-office in Dublin in the years 1732 and 1733*." The total of families is stated to be 386,902, which at six souls to each, gives a population of 2,321,412.

Several subsequent attempts were made to ascertain the population through the medium of the returns of the hearth-money collectors. The results gave, in 1754, a population
1754. of 2,372,634; in 1767, of 2,544,276; in 1777, of 2,690,556;
1767. 1777 and in 1785, of 2,845,932.
1785.

But the most remarkable of the calculations, founded on such returns and the most to be depended upon, both from the peculiar advantages possessed by the compiler, and from his assiduity and intelligence in making up his results, is that of G. P. Bushe, Esq. presented by him to the Royal Irish Academy, and to be found among their transactions. It is formed from the hearth-money collectors' survey-books for the year 1788, and corrected and completed by himself.
1788. He details the method of these corrections and supplements as follows: "I have selected the most intelligent officers and have requested them to subjoin to each house, the number of souls inhabiting the same; but where they should not be able to obtain a clear and satisfactory account, to pass by such house, without attempting to give any account whatever of the number of souls, rather than give one, that could not be thoroughly depended upon. Having the books before me, I first find out the number of widows and paupers

* A second edition of this tract was published in 1788, in consequence of a reference made to it by the Bishop of Cloyne, in his *Present State of the Church of Ireland*.

in the county; 2dly, the number of new houses; 3dly, the number of houses with more than one hearth to each; 4thly, the number of houses with a single hearth to each, which pay duty; and when I have sufficient materials, I cause a proportionate number of each sort to be extracted, till I have the 20th part of the houses in the county. Thus in the county of Wexford there are 2111 paupers and widows, so I take the first 106 houses inhabited by persons of that description which appear on the face of the books, with the number of souls annexed to each, 106 being as nearly the one-twentieth part of 2111 as I can go without a fraction: then I find the number of new houses to be 766, so I take the number of souls annexed to the first 38 new houses; then I find the number of houses having two hearths and upwards to be 2063, so I take the number of souls annexed to the first 103 houses in that description; lastly, I find the number of houses having but one hearth each, and paying hearth-money, to be 15,508, so I take the number of souls annexed to the first 775 of such houses and I find the account to stand thus.

	Total Number.	No. of Houses whereof the Population was taken.	No. of souls therein.	Average Number in each house.
Poor - -	2,111	106	549	About $5\frac{1}{2}$
New - -	766	38	164	About $4\frac{1}{4}$
Double Hearths	2,063	103	919	About 9
Single Ditto	15,508	775	5008	About $6\frac{1}{2}$
Total	20,448	1022	6640	About $6\frac{1}{2}$

By applying this process to every county Mr. Bushe drew out his table of the population of Ireland. But he appears not to have been by any means satisfied with the accuracy of the survey books which were his basis. "The number of houses," says he, "returned in the year 1788, is certainly far short of the truth. In thirteen counties I have some grounds, whereupon I have computed the number of houses omitted; to wit, the check-surveys made by supervisors of certain parishes in each walk, and returned upon oath. If the frauds committed through the thirteen counties, be equal to those committed in the parishes so surveyed therein, then the number of houses omitted in the said thirteen counties, amounts to about 24,800; and if any of

the supervisors have been guilty of collusion or negligence, the number of houses omitted is probably greater than 24,800; to this number must be added the houses omitted in several of the other counties. The frauds committed in some of these appear as great, as in the other thirteen counties. My opinion formed on a variety of circumstances is, that they amount to 20,000; but I can only give my opinion. The waste houses, or those returned as such, are not included. Many of them, probably some thousands, were inhabited. The inhabitants frequently shut their doors and hide from the collector; he frequently returns houses as waste, which have paid the duty. In the houses the population whereof has been taken, no barrack, hospital, school-house, or public building is included. Whether the other houses in the kingdom contain in proportion an equal number of souls with the 14,108 houses whereof the population has been taken, must be a matter of conjecture; if they do, and if the number of houses amounts to 660,000 (which I believe to be short of the truth,) then the number of souls in the kingdom must be computed at above 4,040,000."

The above extracts shew the great pains taken by the investigator to arrive at the truth, and the obstacles, arising from the nature of his basis, that were to be encountered.

1792.

Dr. Beaufort published his Ecclesiastical Map of Ireland in 1792; it was accompanied with a memoir illustrative of the geographical state of the kingdom according to counties, in each of which the population is given, drawn from the number of houses. It does not appear whence he derived his information as to this point; the whole seems to be done in a vague manner, as designed rather to afford a general comparative view of the circumstances of the several parts of the country, than to satisfy the accurate investigator. He forms his average according to the conjectured circumstances at different rates, from 5 to 6 souls to a house; but taking it at the latter of these numbers, his statement will afford a population of 4,088,226.

In the same year a very detailed report of the number of hearths, prepared from the returns of the preceding year, was laid before the House of Commons. The result produces a population of 4,206,612.

1805.

Mr. Newenham, in his excellent work already noticed, not satisfied with the returns from the hearth-money collectors, as a basis for an estimate of the existing population, and unable to procure any other, endeavours to remedy its palpable inaccuracies by aids from various

sources. From thence he forms a great variety of deductions which it would be impossible to dwell on here, it must be sufficient to observe, that his corrected estimate of the population of Ireland for the year 1805, gives a total of 5,395,456 souls.

The several estimates of population already enumerated all rest on the same basis, the number of houses as ascertained by the hearth-money returns, and the probable average of souls to a house. The former of these was universally allowed, even by those who for want of better materials were compelled to have recourse to them, to be extremely doubtful, and tending, as far as relied on, to give a population much less than the truth: the latter was subject to no standard but the opinion of the calculator, supported occasionally by a very limited induction. Hence the average was by some, struck so low as 5 to a house, while others raised it to $6\frac{1}{4}$; the average of six has been chosen in all the foregoing statements, as being probably nearest to the truth, and as of easy correction by those who prefer any other rate.

The following table will afford a synoptical view of the estimated population of Ireland at the several periods noticed; the result of the enumeration under the act of 1812 is also added, in order to complete the view. The number of souls are estimated at six to a house, except in that of Sir Wm. Petty who calculates them at five to a house.

DATE.	NAME.	POPULATION.
1672	Sir William Petty.	1,100,000
1695	Captain South.	1,034,102
1731	Established Clergy.	2,010,221
1754	Hearth Money Collect.	2,372,634
1767	Ditto.	2,544,276
1777	Ditto.	2,690,556
1785	Ditto.	2,845,932
1788	Gervas P. Bushe, Esq.	4,040,000
1791	Hearth Money Collect.	4,206,612
1792	Doctor Beaufort.	4,088,226
1805	Thos. Newenham, Esq.	5,395,426
1814	Parliamentary Return.	*5,937,856

* This number is the result of a calculation formed by an ingenious friend of the author, an account of which will be found at the end of this essay.

At length the time came when this great political theorem was to be solved in a more satisfactory manner. In the year 1810, the Imperial Parliament had passed an act to ascertain by actual enumeration the population of England, and it was shortly after determined, by a similar act with respect to Ireland, to extend the process to this country. 1812. On the 18th July, 1812, the act "for taking an account of the population of Ireland, and of the increase or diminution thereof,"* received the Royal assent. The process by which it was to be carried into effect, is briefly as follows:

Copies of the act and of the schedule annexed to it, were to be forwarded by the King's printer in Ireland, within thirty days after it had passed, to the peace clerks and town clerks of the several counties at large, and counties of cities and of towns in Ireland, to be by them distributed with all convenient speed, among the secretaries of the several Grand Juries within their respective limits. The Grand Juries were then directed to appoint, at their next ensuing meeting, proper persons to carry the act into execution; these were pointed out by the act to be, in counties at large, the head constable of each Barony or Half Barony, and in cities and towns, a substantial house-keeper in each parish. In both cases these persons were empowered to call to their assistance, in baronies, the persons employed in applotting and collecting the Grand Jury Cess; and in cities and towns, the Church-Warden, Constables, and other peace officers of each parish.

The inquiry was to commence through Ireland on the same day. The 1st of May, 1813, was fixed upon by the legislature for the purpose, and the persons appointed were instructed to proceed from house to house, and to continue their examination from day to day, without interruption or wilful or negligent delay, until the whole was completed. The points to which their enquiries were to be specially directed are as follow: 1. the number of inhabited houses; 2. the number of families; 3. the number of houses building; 4. the number of houses uninhabited from any other cause; 5. the number of families employed in, and maintained by agriculture; 6. the number of those employed in trade,

* The Bill was introduced into the House of Commons by the Right Hon. Sir John Newport; but underwent so many alterations during its progress, as to make it essentially different from the idea of its deviser. In illustration of this, it may be mentioned, that the Act, as passed, contains no clause whatever for ascertaining the increase or diminution of the Population, though this object forms part of its title.

manufactures, and handicrafts; 7. The number of those not comprised in either of the two other classes; 8. the number of souls (including children of every age) actually living within the Barony &c. at the time of taking the account, distinguishing between males and females, and exclusive of soldiers in the regular service or in the militia, and of seamen in the King's service or in registered vessels; 9. The number of inhabitants in each city, town, or village, within each district.

The result of the inquiries respecting each of those points, was to be digested according to a plan specified in the act, copies of which were given to each person so appointed, and the contents of these were verified by an attestation, under their signature made before a justice of the peace. In order further to insure the accuracy of the returns, and to obviate any difficulties arising from unwillingness in the people to answer the questions that were to be put to them, the act declared that any person refusing to answer such questions as should be necessary towards stating the particulars therein required, or wilfully giving false answers, should forfeit a sum not less than forty shillings, nor more than five pounds on complaint before a Justice of the Peace.

The original accounts, when perfected, were to be lodged with the peace or town Clerk among the archives of the county; and the returns formed from them to be transmitted to the office of the Lord Lieutenant's chief Secretary, where they were to be arranged and digested by an officer, to be specially appointed by him for that purpose.

Still further, in the hope of attaining the utmost possible accuracy, it was enacted, that wherever an examination of the returns afforded grounds for suspecting them to be defective or incorrect, the Chief Secretary should send them back to their respective Grand Juries for revision and amendment. Penalties were imposed on false returns made by the under agents, to whom the execution of the measure was entrusted, and the Judges were specially instructed to give it in charge to the Grand Juries throughout their respective circuits.

The provisions of the act, guarded as they were with precautions apparently calculated to ensure success, did not produce the practical effect that might have been expected. The failure may be attributed partly to the incapacity or negligence of the inferior agents, partly to the reluctance of the great body of the people, habitually suspicious

of every measure that assumed the form of special inquiry, and as habitually exercised in an evasive ingenuity in parrying off such inquiries—but chiefly, it must be allowed, to the body to whom the management of its execution had been in the first instance committed. The Grand Jury system, as it operates in Ireland, is not of a nature to render its members agents well calculated to ensure the success of an untried and complicated experiment. Meeting but seldom, and during their ephemeral session, overwhelmed with a load of ordinary business sometimes not to be completely got through, seldom well arranged, digested or executed, an additional duty of a nature not clearly understood, and for an object whose utility was not equally evident to all, came upon them in a very unwelcome shape. The appointment of the under agents was in some cases, the result of ill-directed influence; even the mode of remunerating those agents was, in many instances, such as to afford a strong temptation to misrepresent. The payment was made according to the amount of the population returned; thus holding out a premium for enlarging the aggregate.* In some cases, the persons employed to take the account adhered strictly to the letter of the act, in commencing the investigation on the appointed day, but seemed wholly forgetful that they were equally bound to continue the enquiry from day to day without interruption, or wilful or negligent delay; thus defeating the accomplishment of one object of the legislature, the attainment of a simultaneous return of the population. Some counties treated the act as a dead letter, and made no return whatever; in others the returns were confused, inaccurate or defective. In fine it was found impossible to prepare from them, a digest fit to be laid before Parliament in the session of 1814: and though in many instances, the returns were repeatedly sent back for correction, and letters specially issued from the Chief Secretary to the Grand Juries and others concerned in conducting it, urging its accomplishment in the strongest terms, it was ascertained at the close of the year 1814, that out of forty counties at large, and counties of cities and towns into which Ireland is divided, but ten had attained the standard of perfection contemplated by the devisers of the measure, six were wholly defaulting

* An instance came to the knowledge of the officer appointed to arrange the returns of an agent who went so far as to include in his return children in the womb.

and the remaining twenty-four defective or inaccurate with respect to some of the points insisted upon in the schedule. The measure may therefore be said to have completely failed, and the investigator into the capabilities and resources of this part of the empire is still condemned to found his calculations on theoretical conjectures instead of solid facts.

But though the experiment failed, the measure has not been abandoned. In 1815, an act for effectuating it on an improved plan, introduced into the House of Commons by the Right Hon. Robert Peel, then Chief Secretary for Ireland, was sanctioned by the legislature. The principal features that distinguish it from its predecessor are, first, the transfer of the management throughout the counties from the Grand Juries to the County Magistrates, who, by reason of the greater frequency of their meetings, and the power granted in the act of holding special sessions for this purpose, were deemed more adequate to superintend the execution of the measure throughout all its stages. This alteration is more a change of office than of person: the same individuals who sit on Grand Juries sit also on the bench of Magistrates. It is, therefore, merely an enlargement of numbers and of time to attain the end proposed. The second variation consisted in the nature of the information to be collected and the manner in which it was to be reported to the Chief Secretary's Office. According to the late act, the information collected from house to house was to be digested into barony or parish returns, according to a specified form, by the persons on whom the duty of collecting this information devolved. The new act, considering that the qualifications for collecting information are wholly different from those requisite for its arrangement, as well as much more easy of attainment, has limited the duties of the inferior agents in the baronies or parishes, to that of taking an account of the name, age, and occupation of every individual within such district; and directed the lists, so made out, to be forwarded to the office of the Chief Secretary, on whom it imposed the duty of collecting the totals of each description of person, &c. and of arranging them according to parishes, baronies and counties, so as to form a grand total for laying before parliament. Another difference between the two plans, not indeed affecting the machinery, but of much importance towards the continuance of its good effects, is, that it is made prospective; its duration is not limited to the process of a single enumeration; it

gives a power to take an account of the population from time to time, thus affording the means of ascertaining periodically a problem of high import, the actual increase or diminution of the population throughout every part of the island.

This act has not yet been carried into effect. The reflecting mind, on surveying the transactions of the years that have elapsed since its enactment, will find perhaps reasons sufficient to satisfy it, why a measure should be postponed which requires for its perfect and satisfactory accomplishment a season of prosperity and general ease. If when this season, to which we anxiously look forward, does arrive, the act be carried into effect with energy and precision, if also, when the actual population at one precise period shall have been thus ascertained, a means be adopted of determining annually its increase and diminution by a pervasive and uniform system of Parish Registers, which again may be checked by the repetition of the actual census at stated periods, nothing probably can be devised better calculated to divert the speculations on this vital subject from the visions of conjecture, and to rest them on the indubitable foundation of reality.

THE RESULTS of the act of 1812 are exhibited in the following tables. The FIRST affords a view of the results of the exertions made to complete the returns in the years 1813 and 1814, in order to digest and arrange them for laying before parliament. The SECOND gives a full view of the totals of the returns from each of the ten perfect counties, drawn up in the manner in which the whole was to have been arranged, and exhibiting the answers to the several points to which the attention of the agents was directed by the schedule. The THIRD gives the return of the number of houses and souls (being the two most important points) in every county, thus, at the same time, exhibiting a view of the defects of the returns and affording something like a basis for conjecture to work upon, until it shall be supplied with more certain data by the act of 1815.

Annexed to these tables is THE ACCOUNT of an attempt made by the Author of the Statistical Survey of Ireland, during the progress of the Census of 1813, to ascertain the proportion between the Protestant and Roman Catholic parts of the population of Ireland.

TABLE I.

Exhibiting a View of the Results of the Exertions made to complete the Returns in 1813 and 1814, in order to digest and arrange them for laying before Parliament.

Names of Counties, Counties of Cities, and Counties of Towns.	Baronies or other Subdiv.	State of Returns as transmitted by Peace Clerks pursuant to the Statute.	Observations on Returns in 1813.	Observations on Returns in 1814.	Actual State of Returns in March, 1815.
Antrim,	14	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	10 Returns objection- able, and sent back for amendment.	6 received amended, of which one is still objec- tionable.	2 Baronies objectionable, 12 complete,
Armagh,	8	No certain Return by Peace Clerk,	6 objectionable and sent back,	None since received,	6 Baronies objectionable, 2 defaulting,
Carlow,	6	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	6 objectionable, and sent back,	Amended and correct,	Complete,
Carrickfergus,	1	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	Objectionable,	Amended and correct,	Complete,
Cavan,	7	No Return,	No Return,	No Return,	Defaulting,
Clare,	9	Apparently complete,	5 objectionable, and sent back,	5 received as amended, 4 of which still objectionable,	3 Baronies objectionable, 6 complete,
Cork County,	24	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	20 objectionable, and sent back, and two deficient,	2 deficient Returns received, & 11 amended Returns, 4 of which still objectionable	9 Baronies & 1 Town ob- jectionable, 9 Baronies & 3 Towns complete,

Names of Counties, Counties of Cities, and Counties of Towns.	Baronies or other Subdiv.	State of Returns as transmitted by Peace Clerks pursuant to the Statute.	Observations on Returns in 1813.	Observations on Returns in 1814.	Actual State of Returns in March, 1815.
Cork City,	7	1 Parish returned deficient by Peace Clerk,	1 objectionable, and sent back,	Amended Return received,	1 Parish defaulting, 6 complete,
Donegal,	5	No Return,	No Return,	No Return,	Defaulting,
Down,	14	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	29 objectionable, and sent back,	11 received amended, 4 of which still objectionable,	2 Baronies objectionable, 11 complete, 1 Lordship complete,
Drogheda,	3	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	2 objectionable, and sent back,	Amended and correct,	Complete,
Dublin City,	21	2 Parishes returned deficient by Peace Clerk,	5 objectionable, and sent back,	None since received,	2 Parishes defaulting, 10 objectionable, 18 complete,
Dublin County,	8	1 Barony returned deficient by Peace Clerk,	8 objectionable, and sent back,	1 received amended and correct,	1 Barony defaulting, 2 objectionable, 5 complete,
Fermanagh,	8	No Return by Peace Clerk,	One of the defaulting Counties this year,	5 Returns objectionable,	6 Baronies objectionable, 2 complete,
Galway County,	19	No certain Return by Peace Clerk,	12 objectionable, and sent back,	1 received amended,	5 Baronies defaulting, 7 objectionable, and 5 complete,

Names of Counties, Counties of Cities, and Counties of Towns.	Baronies or other Subdiv.	State of Returns as transmitted by Peace Clerks pursuant to the Statutes.	Observations on Returns in 1813.	Observations on Returns in 1814.	Actual State of Returns in March, 1815.
Galway Town,	3	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	Correct,	Correct,	Complete,
Kerry,	8	Apparently complete,	One of the defaulting Counties in this year,	7 Returns objectionable,	6 Baronies objectionable, 2 complete,
Kildare,	14	Apparently complete,	Nearly correct, but sent back,	Correct,	Complete,
Kilkenny County,	9	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	One of the defaulting Counties in this year,	9 Returns objectionable,	6 Baronies objectionable, 3 complete,
Kilkenny (City)		No Return,	No Return,	No Return,	Defaulting,
King's County,	12	No certain Return by Peace Clerk,	One of the defaulting Counties in this year,	7 Returns objectionable,	7 Baronies objectionable, 5 complete,
Lacrim,	5	No certain Return by Peace Clerk,	8 objectionable, and sent back,	1 received amended, but still objectionable,	3 Baronies objectionable, 2 complete,
Limerick County,	11	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	2 objectionable, and sent back, and four deficient.	1 received as amended, but still objectionable, and 2 of the deficient Returns objectionable,	2 Baronies defaulting, 3 objectionable, 5 Baron- ies and 1 Town com- plete,
Limerick City,		No Return,	No Return.	No Return,	Defaulting,

Names of Counties, Counties of Cities, and Counties of Towns.	Baronies or other Subdiv.	State of Returns as transmitted by Peace Clerks pursuant to the Statute.	Observations on Returns in 1813.	Observations on Returns in 1814.	Actual State of Returns in March, 1815.
Londonderry,		Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	One of the defaulting Counties in this year,	3 Returns objectionable,	3 Baronies objectionable, 1 Bar. 2 Towns complete
Longford,	6	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	3 objectionable, and sent back,	Correct,	Complete,
Louth,	5	Apparently complete,	Returned for correc- tion,	Not since received.	Defaulting,
Mayo,	9	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	7 objectionable, and sent back,	Not since received.	5 Baronies objectionable, 4 complete,
Meath,	18	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	18 objectionable, and sent back,	Received amended, very nearly correct,	Complete,
Monaghan,	5	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	5 objectionable, and sent back,	2 Returned amended and correct,	2 Baronies objectionable, 3 complete,
Queen's County,	9	Apparently complete,	6 objectionable, and sent back,	None received.	2 Baronies objectionable, 7 complete,
Roscommon,	6	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	6 objectionable, and sent back,	6 received, of which two not yet quite satisfac- tory,	Complete,
Sligo,	6	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	9 objectionable, and sent back,	9 received, of which six are objectionable,	6 Baronies objectionable,

Names of Counties, Cities, and Counties of Towns.	Baronies or other Subdiv.	State of Returns as transmitted by Peace Clerks pursuant to the Statute.	Observations on Returns in 1813.	Observations on Returns in 1814.	Annual State of Returns in March, 1815.
Tipperary,	11	No certain Return by Peace Clerk,	10 objectionable, and sent back,	10 received amended, and nearly correct,	2 Baronies objectionable, 9 complete,
Tyrone,	4	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	4 objectionable, and sent back,	None since received,	1 Barony objectionable, 3 complete,
Waterford County,	7	No certain Return by Peace Clerk,	5 objectionable, and sent back,	Nearly correct,	Complete,
Waterford City,	13	Returned by Peace Clerk complete,	Correct,	Correct,	Complete,
Westmeath,	12	No certain Return by Peace Clerk,	4 objectionable, and sent back,	None since received,	9 Baronies defaulting, 2 objectionable, and 1 complete,
Wexford,	8	No Return, one of the defaulting Counties,	No Return,	No Return,	Defaulting,
Wicklow,	7	1 Barony, and 1 half Barony returned deficient by Peace Clerk,	1 objectionable, and sent back,	None since returned,	1 Barony defaulting, 3 objectionable, and 3 complete.

TABLE II.

Containing the Returns from the Ten perfect Counties, drawn up in the manner in which the whole was to have been arranged.

CARLOW COUNTY.		Question 1st.		Quest. 2d.	Quest. 3d.	Question 4th.			Question 5th. Persons including Children of whata. Age.		
Name and Description of Baronies, &c.		Inhabited Houses.	By how many Families occupied.	Houses now Building.	Other Houses uninhabited.	Families chiefly employed in Agriculture.	Families chiefly employed in Trade, Manu- factures, and Handicraft.	All other Fam- ilies not com- prised in the two preceding classes.	Males.	Females.	Total of Persons.
Carlow	-	2,032	2,218	46	166	1,446	513	259	5,524	6,482	12,006
Forth	-	1,621	1,642	22	16	832	178	632	4,861	4,717	9,578
Idrone East	-	3,147	3,187	39	119	2,203	556	428	8,535	9,044	17,579
Idrone West	-	1,059	1,099	4	20	997	89	13	3,103	3,087	6,190
St. Mullins	-	1,517	1,518	12	5	1,182	181	155	4,273	4,415	8,688
Rathvilly	-	2,674	2,763	22	62	1,092	380	1,291	7,602	7,923	15,525
Total	-	12,090	12,427	145	388	7,752	1,897	2,778	33,898	36,668	69,566
CARLOW CO. Question 6th.—Names of Towns, Cities and Villages, with the Total Inhabitants in each.											
Carlow Town, 6,146	Borris, 625	Tullowbeg, 424	Staplestown V. 122	Ballynockane, 879	Hacketstown, 175						
Tinryland, V. 223	Old Leighlin V. 82	Coolmanna V. 145	Myshall Town, 109	Milford Town, 261							
Ballon Town, 126	Royal Oak, 221	Tullow Town, 1,451	Nurney, 304	Tinehinch V. 389							
Leighlin Bridge East, 905	Clonegall V. 493	Pallintine Town V. 119	Bagenalstown, 1354	Rathvilly Town, 256							
CARRICKFERGUS CO. -		1,166	1,253	33	61	475	613	165	2,812	3,324	6,136

DROGHEDA TOWN.	Question 1st.		Question 2d.	Quest. 5d.	Question 4th.			Question 5th.		
	Inhabited Houses.	By how many Families occupied.			Families chiefly employed in Agriculture.	Families chiefly employed in Trade, Manufactures, and Handicraft.	All other Families not comprised in the two preceding classes.	Males.	Females.	Total of Persons.
Ballymakenny Parish	94	94	1	4	39	46	9	287	301	588
St. Mary's	798	876	22	42	336	450	90	1,814	2,132	3,946
St. Peter's	2,194	2,449	11	146	155	2,168	126	5,055	6,534	11,589
Total	3,086	5,419	34	192	530	2,664	225	7,156	8,967	16,123
GALWAY TOWN.										
Part of Rahoon Parish within the County of the Town	1,196	1,234	28	71	654	296	284	3,163	3,747	6,910
The Streets of Galway, all in St. Nicholas' Parish	962	1,704	5	24	73	661	970	4,541	6,586	11,127
That part of St. Nicholas' Parish within the County of the Town	683	754	63	51	120	204	430	1,815	1,922	3,737
That part of the Parish of Oranmore within the Co. of the Town	512	528	55	15	435	35	58	1,450	1,460	2,910
Total	3,353	4,220	151	161	1,282	1,196	1,742	10,969	13,715	24,684

KILDARE CO.	Question 1st.		Question 2d.	Question 3d.	Question 4th.			Question 5th.		
	Inhabited Houses.	By how many Families occupied.	Houses now Building.	Other Houses uninhabited.	Families chiefly employed in Agriculture.	Families chiefly employed in Trade, Manufactures, and Handicraft.	All other Families not comprised in the two preceding classes.	Males.	Females.	Total of Persons.
Carbery	1,472	1,525	37	34	1,279	231	15	4,414	4,526	8,940
Clane	1,054	1,109	15	15	851	221	37	3,214	3,256	6,470
Connell	1,029	1,088	23	24	986	83	19	3,102	3,114	6,216
Ikeathy and Oughterany	950	973	5	8	804	159	10	2,770	2,846	5,616
Kilcullen	520	550	11	20	202	308	40	1,374	1,404	2,778
Kilkea and Moone	1,483	1,505	24	35	1,214	250	41	4,547	4,530	9,077
North Naas	1,040	1,131	16	76	658	324	149	2,981	3,067	6,048
South Naas	654	670	8	18	570	76	24	1,881	1,872	3,753
Eastern Narragh and Rheban	1,089	1,098	18	44	686	206	206	3,162	3,156	6,318
Western Narragh and Rheban	1,051	1,113	22	115	625	201	287	2,705	2,917	5,622
Eastern Ophaley	1,144	1,197	20	47	927	239	31	3,071	3,182	6,253
Western Ophaley	1,522	1,553	26	36	1,304	216	13	3,711	3,963	7,674
North Salt	995	1,146	8	57	723	384	59	3,437	3,466	6,903
South Salt	561	587	18	19	454	118	15	1,727	1,738	3,465
Total	14,564	15,225	251	548	11,283	3,016	926	42,096	43,037	85,133

KILDARE CO.		Question 6th.—Names of Towns, Cities and Villages, with the Total Inhabitants in each.			
Johnstown Bridge, 268	Graney, 47	Timolin, 124	Part of Kilcullen Bridge, 445	Ballitore, 279	Kill, 257
Clane, 284	Naas, 2,018	Athy, 3,192	len Bridge, 176	Narraghmore, 62	Rathangan, 812
Prosperous, 793	Johnstown, 158	Kildare, 1,299	Moone, 138	Rathbride, 46	Leixlip, 1,169
Kilcock, 1,496	Part of Kilcullen Bridge, 369	Suncroft, 32	Sallins, 174	Monastereven, 723	Kilteel, 171
Old Kilcullen, 112		Carbery, 87	Rathmore, 69	Maynooth, 1,468	
Castledermott, 1,162		Caragh, 94	Mile Mill, 69	Celbridge, 1,008	

LONGFORD CO.	Question 1st.		Quest. 2d.	Quest. 3d.	Question 4th.			Question 5th.	
	Inhabited Houses.	By how many Families occupied.			Families chiefly employed in Agriculture.	Families chiefly employed in Trade, Manu- factures, and Handicraft.	All other Families not com- prised in the two preceding classes.	Males.	Females.
Abbeyshrule, -	1,431	1,450	30	14	414	323	713	3,894	4,373
Ardagh, -	2,917	3,349	68	65	2,092	600	657	8,476	9,311
Granard, -	4,582	4,672	213	172	3,273	964	435	13,438	14,733
Longford, -	3,615	3,769	98	69	2,552	649	568	9,782	10,607
Moydow, -	1,713	1,841	29	32	1,532	227	82	4,678	5,161
Ratheline, -	2,090	2,090	61	45	1,122	314	654	5,650	5,814
Total	16,348	17,171	499	397	10,985	3,077	3,109	45,918	49,999
									95,917

LONGFORD CO. Question 6th.—Names of Towns, Cities and Villages, with the Total Inhabitants in each

Curnagour V.	209	Coolaherty V.	112	Killashee,	279	Edgeworthstown,	661
Tusheney V.	188	Abby V.	173	Kenagh,	390	Bonlahy V.	321
Longford,	3,062	Part of the Town of Longford	2,024	Lanesboro,	517	St. Johnstown,	323
Ardagh,	156			Abbeyshrule V.	150	Newtownforbes,	478
Granard Town,	2,425	Drumlish,	442	Barrey V.	259	Ballymahon,	1,030

MEATH COUNTY.		Question 1st.		Question 2d.	Quest. 3d.	Question 4th.			Question 5th.		
Name and Description of Barones, &c.		Inhabited Houses.	By how many Families occupied.	Houses now Building.	Other Houses uninhabited.	Families chiefly employed in Agriculture.	Families chiefly employed in Trade, Manu- factures, and Handicraft.	All other Fa- milies not comprised in the above classes.	Males.	Females.	Total of Persons.
Lower Dece,	-	662	662	14	11	586	76	...	1,694	1,854	3,548
Upper Dece,	-	732	732	13	15	687	43	2	2,011	2,055	4,066
Demifore,	-	2,017	2,022	10	17	1,741	281	...	5,151	5,602	10,753
Lower Duleck,	-	1,560	1,581	27	76	388	523	870	4,078	4,218	8,296
Upper Duleck,	-	1,338	1,403	8	41	979	404	20	3,929	3,898	7,827
Dunboyne,	-	338	369	13	33	258	44	67	1,101	1,062	2,163
Lower Kells,	-	2,076	2,093	20	35	1,758	313	22	5,674	5,930	11,604
Upper Kells,	-	2,887	2,905	6	5	2,217	631	57	7,787	8,016	15,803
Lune,	-	1,702	1,702	21	21	1,367	299	36	4,344	4,515	8,859
Morgallion,	-	1,729	1,758	42	50	592	222	944	4,695	4,743	9,438
Lower Moyfenragh,	-	1,699	1,708	24	29	1,431	249	28	4,719	4,810	9,529
Upper Moyfenragh,	-	1,292	1,292	9	14	925	229	138	3,625	3,464	7,089
Lower Navan,	-	2,493	2,495	48	91	1,772	660	63	6,321	6,706	13,027
Upper Navan,	-	718	718	9	35	593	93	32	1,801	1,881	3,682
Ratoath,	-	866	903	13	9	756	165	2	2,637	2,652	5,289
Screen,	-	1,190	1,190	48	88	1,033	140	17	3,604	3,593	7,197
Lower Slane,	-	1,442	1,454	14	27	1,010	250	214	3,845	3,947	7,790
Upper Slane,	-	1,180	1,197	23	46	925	188	84	3,177	3,342	6,519
Total	-	25,921	26,184	362	643	18,998	4,590	2,596	70,191	72,288	142,479

MEATH CO. Question 6th.—Names of Towns, Cities and Villages, with the Total Inhabitants in each.

Bective Town, 85	Stamullen, 201	Newtown City V. 369	Hardwood V. 297	Athlumney V. 147	Moxlough, 27	Carlanstown 454	Congil V. 177	Curraha V. 53
Killallon, 154	Ardeath, 109	Athboy Town, 1,877	Longwood V. 393	Lobinstown, 53	Betty's town 265	Kilmainham- wood, 73	Summerhill 457	Ratoath V. 457
Oldcastle, 297	Dunboyne T. 428	Kildalkey V. 439	Part of Tyin, 857	Druinacra, 348	Julianstown 231	Loughlan V. 266	Tain V. 99	Wallsstown, 57
Loughcrew, 39	Mognahy, 330	Nobber Town, 263	Dunshaughlin 415	Slane, 592	Painstown, 267	Loughlan V. 266	Imfield V. 108	Syden, 135
Morningtown, 180	Arduaghbroga 70	Kilberry V. 141	Greenoge V. 198	Stackallen, 337	Kilmoon, 154	Crossakel T. 549	Morpader Post 73	Kushure, 109
Beymore, 289	Kells Town, 3,341	Thin T. East part, 837	Screen V. 170	Kilnessan V. 291	Burtonst. 168	Kilballiner V. 162	Navan T. 3,802	
Duleck, 875	Oristown V. 867	Rathmolin Town 298	Rathfye V. 97	Killeagh, 60	Vil. of Clonee 91			

ROSCOMMON CO.	Question 1st.		Question 2d.	Quest. 3d.	Question 4th.			Question 5th.		
	Inhabited Houses.	By how many Families occupied.	Houses now Building.	Other Houses uninhabited.	Families chiefly employed in Agriculture.	Families chiefly employed in Trade, Manufactures and Handicraft.	All other Families not comprised in the two preceding classes.	Males.	Females.	Total of Persons.
Athlone, - - -	6,781	6,873	121	125	6,123	688	62	16,444	17,382	33,826
Ballintubber, - -	8,728	8,726	7	37	8,269	401	56	22,465	22,540	45,005
Ballymoe Half Barony, -	1,050	1,050	10	37	959	77	14	2,761	2,930	5,691
Boyle, - - -	7,815	8,026	66	99	7,170	774	82	20,598	20,876	41,474
Moycarnon Half Barony, -	964	971	6	20	862	96	13	2,423	2,608	5,031
Roscommon, - - -	4,916	4,994	54	104	4,313	597	84	13,284	13,799	27,083
Total	30,254	30,640	264	422	27,696	2,633	311	77,975	80,135	158,110

ROSCOMMON CO. Question 6th.---Names of Towns, Cities and Villages, with the Total Inhabitants in each.

Part of the Town { of Athlone, { Ballymurry V. { Athleague V. { Castleroa Town, { Castleplunket V. {	2560 385 287 890 313	Ballyfinagan, other- wise Ballintubber V. { Roscommon Town, { Boyle Town, { Loughlin V. { Keadue V. {	113 1,607 2,272 151 308	Ballinasloe Town, { (part) { Strokesstown T. { Elphin Town, { Knockcroghery V. { Feurty, {	87 1,233 987 158 122	Mount Talbot V. Ballinlough V. Ballinagar V. Roosky, Ballyleague V. French Park V.	192 134 59 70 125 304	Ballyfarnon V. Crohan V. Creagh V. Tulsk V.	105 125 195 119
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WATERFORD COUNTY OF CITY.	Question 1st.		Quest. 2d.	Quest. 3d.	Question 4th.			Question 5th.		
	Inhabited Houses.	By how many Families occupied.			Families chiefly employed in Agriculture.	Families chiefly employed in Trades, Manu- factures and Handicraft.	All other Fam- ilies not com- prised in the two preceding classes.	Males.	Females.	Total of Persons.
Trinity Within Parish,	549	874	12	32	...	620	254	1,832	2,794	4,566
Trinity Without,	1,401	1,590	4	60	44	364	1,182	3,390	4,568	7,958
Saint Patrick's,	270	382	...	10	28	316	38	838	1,232	2,070
St. John's Within,	283	615	2	43	1	273	341	1,097	1,595	2,692
St. John's Without,	298	331	7	12	14	71	246	752	1,109	1,861
St. Stephen's,	149	307	...	14	...	190	117	611	753	1,364
St. Peter's,	71	154	...	7	...	113	41	295	421	716
St. Olave's,	74	186	...	5	...	65	121	292	394	686
St. Michael's,	88	201	...	10	...	93	108	404	553	957
Kilculleheen,	182	195	7	5	119	28	48	532	568	1,100
Kilbarry,	60	60	...	3	57	3	...	235	227	462
Killoteran,	88	88	1	5	88	...	...	328	259	587
East Passage,	68	118	1	7	5	59	54	184	264	448
Total	3,581	5,101	34	213	356	2,195	2,550	10,790	14,677	25,467

WATERFORD CO.	Question 1st.		Quest. 2d.	Quest. 3d.	Question 4th.			Question 5th.		
	Inhabited Houses.	By how many Families occupied.	Houses now Building.	Other Houses uninhabited.	Families chiefly employed in Agriculture.	Families chiefly employed in Trade, Manu- factures, and Handicraft.	All other Fam- lies not com- prised in the two preceding classes.	Males.	Females.	Total of Persons.
Coshmore and Coshbride,	4,169	4,169	29	76	3,042	772	355	10,809	11,130	21,939
Decies within Drum,	2,718	2,754	18	19	2,458	206	90	8,455	8,297	16,752
Decies without Drum,	5,494	5,690	101	129	4,167	930	593	18,018	19,440	37,458
Gaultier, - -	1,499	1,532	17	60	1,113	281	138	4,530	5,043	9,573
Middlethird, -	1,746	1,761	10	56	1,664	82	15	5,046	5,407	10,453
Upperthird, -	3,074	3,159	11	38	2,692	423	44	9,695	9,559	19,254
Glenahery, -	642	656	11	12	612	38	6	1,975	2,053	4,028
Total	19,342	19,721	197	390	15,748	2,732	1,241	58,528	60,929	119,457

WATERFORD CO. Question 6th.—Names of Cities, Towns and Villages, with the Total Inhabitants in each:

Tallow T.	2,258	Stradbally,	359	Annstown T.	143	Ballyduff V.	175	Blantis and	396	Cheek Point T.	424
Lisnore T.	1,569	New Geneva,	158	Portlaw T.	292	Cappoquin T.	1,746	Knockline,	396	Tramore T.	726
Tallow Bridge V.	221	Ballymacaw V.	198	Kilmackthomas T.	679	Clashmore V.	210	Dungarvan,	4,930	Gardennorris V.	53
Ardmore V.	335	Barritstown V.	77	Graghshoneen T.	656	Aglis V.	237	Dunmore V.	535	Clonea V.	124
Villierstown T.	279	West Passage T.	333	Temple Brick V.	181	Ballybrack,	185	Kil St. Nicholas,	97	Ballylanceen V.	171
Kilgobinet,	102	Kilmaiden V.	210	Glashy,	115	Abbeyside,	1,376	Kilmacomb V.	97	Carriekbeg T.	2,875

SUMMARY.

SUMMARY.										
Counties at large, Counties of Cities, and Counties of Towns.	Question 1st.		Quest. 2d.	Quest. 3d.	Question 4th.			Question 5th.		Total of Persons.
	Inhabited Houses.	By how many Fam- ilies occupied.	Houses now Building.	Other Houses uninhabited.	Families chiefly em- ployed in Agriculture.	Families chiefly em- ployed in Trade, Manu- factures, and Handicraft.	All other Families not comprised in the two pre- ceding classes.	Males.	Females.	
CARLOW COUNTY,	12,090	12,427	145	388	7,752	1,897	2,778	33,898	35,668	69,566
CARRICKFERGUS, (Co. of Town)	1,166	1,253	33	61	475	613	165	2,812	3,324	6,136
DROGHEDA, (Co. } of Town) - }	3,086	3,419	34	192	530	2,664	225	7,156	8,967	16,123
GALWAY, (Co. of } Town) - }	3,553	4,220	151	161	1,282	1,196	1,742	10,969	13,715	24,684
KILDARE - - -	14,564	15,255	251	548	11,283	3,016	926	42,096	43,037	85,133
LONGFORD - - -	16,548	17,171	499	397	10,985	3,077	3,109	45,918	49,999	95,917
MEATH - - -	25,921	26,184	362	643	18,998	4,590	2,596	70,191	72,288	142,479
ROSCOMMON - -	30,254	30,640	264	422	27,696	2,653	311	77,975	80,135	158,110
WATERFORD, } (Co. of City) }	3,581	5,101	34	213	356	2,195	2,550	10,790	14,677	25,467
WATERFORD - -	19,342	19,721	197	390	15,748	2,732	1,241	58,528	60,929	119,457
Grand Total,	129,705	135,361	1,970	3,415	95,105	24,613	15,643	360,333	382,759	743,072

TABLE III.

Containing the Returns of the Number of Inhabited Houses and of Souls in every County.

N. B. The letter (i) prefixed to the name of a Barony, &c. denotes that there was some incorrectness in the original Return. Those Baronies from which no Returns were received have dotted lines annexed to them.

Baronies, Half Baronies, or Parishes.	No. of Houses.	Gross Population.	Baronies, Half Baronies, or Parishes.	No. of Houses.	Gross Population.
ANTRIM.			CAVAN.		
i Upper Antrim,	2,258	11,946	Castleraghan,	...	...
Lower Antrim,	3,008	15,989	Cloachee,	...	...
Upper Belfast,	6,626	40,295	Clonmoghlan,	...	...
Lower Belfast,	3,460	17,920	Loughrea,	...	...
Cary, - -	3,553	18,792	Loughtee,	...	...
Upper Dunluce,	2,917	15,207	Tullaghagh,	...	...
Lower Dunluce,	1,928	9,884	Tullaghharvey,	...	...
Upper Glenarm,	1,084	6,309			
Lower Glenarm,	1,473	7,805	CLARE.		
Kilconway,	2,793	15,603	Bunratty, -	4,183	23,909
Upper Massareene,	4,759	27,348	Burren, -	1,148	6,617
Lower Massareene,	1,422	7,758	i Clanderlagh, -	2,851	16,255
i Upper Toome,	3,596	19,153	i Corcomroe, -	2,145	12,041
Lower Toome,	3,381	17,539	Ibrickin, -	2,299	12,455
	<u>42,258</u>	<u>231,548</u>	Inchiquin, -	2,563	14,401
			Islands, -	3,302	18,744
			Moyferta, -	3,811	19,489
			i Tullagh, -	6,999	36,692
				<u>29,301</u>	<u>160,603</u>
ARMAGH.			CORK COUNTY.		
i Armagh, -	5,708	29,958	Bantry, -	1,768	9,872
Upper Fews, -	2,379	18,047	Bere, -	2,492	11,945
i Lower Fews, -	3,079	16,699	i Barretts, -	2,473	13,970
East O'Neiland,	...	...	i Barrymore, -	7,140	41,235
West O'Neiland,	...	...	Barryroe & Ibawn,	3,781	22,026
i Upper Orier, -	4,564	23,351	i E. Carbery, E. div.	5,737	33,994
i Lower Orier, -	3,751	19,437	i E. Carbery, W. div.	5,507	31,066
i Turaney, -	2,683	13,957	i W. Carbery, E. div.	5,639	30,515
	<u>21,944</u>	<u>121,449</u>	i W. Carbery, W. div.	4,822	25,923
			Condons, -	5,111	30,066
CARLOW.			i Courceys, -	761	4,171
Carlow, -	2,032	12,006	i Duhallo, -	7,353	43,087
Forth, -	1,621	9,578	Fermoy, -	5,990	34,182
Idrone East, -	3,147	17,579	Imokilly, -	6,314	36,846
Idrone West, -	1,099	6,190	Bandon, -	388	2,915
St. Mullin's, -	1,517	8,688	Great Island, -	...	...
Rathvilly, -	2,674	15,525	Kerricurrihy, -	1,742	10,695
	<u>12,090</u>	<u>69,566</u>	i Kilnataloon, -	1,116	6,653
			i Kinalmeaky, -	2,654	14,955
CARRICKFERGUS.			Carried forward	70,888	404,116
Carrickfergus,	1,166	6,136			

Baronies, Half Baronies, or Parishes.	No. of Houses.	Gross Population.	Baronies, Half Baronies, or Parishes.	No. of Houses.	Gross Population.
Brought forward	70,888	404,116	DROGHEDA TOWN.		
CORK CO. continued.			Ballymackenny,	94	588
Kinallea, -	5,012	16,547	St. Mary's, -	798	3,946
Kinsale, -	2,016	11,863	St. Peter's, -	2,194	11,589
Malloy, -	869	5,542		<u>3,086</u>	<u>16,123</u>
Muskerry W. -	4,979	28,943	DUBLIN CITY.		
Muskerry E. -	4,024	23,554	St. Andrew's, -	705	7,074
Orrery, -	4,331	24,462	St. Anne's, -	764	8,324
Youghall, -	1,428	9,109	St. Audeon's, -	412	4,667
	<u>91,447</u>	<u>523,936</u>	St. Bridget's, -	745	9,659
CORK CITY.			St. Catherine's Liberty & Thomas-court, -	1,350	17,104
Holy Trinity, -	956	9,045	St. James's, -	455	5,649
Saint Ann's, -	2,249	19,881	St. John's, -	277	4,346
Saint Peter's, -	680	7,252	St. Mark's, -	720	11,066
St. Nicholas, -	...	...	St. Mary's, -	1,670	19,268
St. Finbar, -	1,759	11,817	St. Michael's, -	150	2,011
St. Paul, -	370	5,693	St. Michan's, -	1,488	20,593
St. Mary of Shandon, 1638		12,726	St. Nicholas Within, 102		1,447
	<u>7,652</u>	<u>64,594</u>	St. Nicholas Without, 722		9,409
DONEGAL.			St. Sepulchre's, -	797	9,001
Boylagh, &c. -	...	...	St. Patrick's, -	149	2,246
Inishowen, -	...	...	St. Paul's, -	746	9,560
Kilmacrenan, -	...	...	St. Peter's, -	1,264	13,478
Raphoe, -	...	...	St. Thomas', -	1,680	13,766
Tyrhugh, -	...	...	St. Werburgh's, -	246	5,052
DOWN.			St. Donnybrook, -	684	4,910
Ardes North, -	3,882	19,547	St. George's, -	...	...
Ardes South, -	2,675	13,463	St. Luke's, -	...	...
Castlereagh Upper, 5,613		29,566		<u>15,104</u>	<u>176,610</u>
Castlereagh Lower, 5,614		19,504	DUBLIN COUNTY		
Dufferin, -	1,408	7,543	Balruddery, -	3,286	18,297
Upper Iveagh, up. } 6,066		32,070	Castleknock, -	...	...
Half Barony, }			Coolock, -	4,612	32,990
Upper Iveagh, low. } 6,623		35,507	Donore, -	803	10,910
Half Barony, }			Nethercross, -	...	...
Lower Iveagh, up. } 4,542		25,086	Newcastle, -	2,674	15,742
Half Barony, }			Rathdown, -	2,595	15,995
Lower Iveagh, low. } 5,319		30,431	Uppercross, -	2,663	16,503
Half Barony, }				<u>16,633</u>	<u>110,437</u>
Kinelcarty, -	3,094	17,832			
Lecale Upper, -	3,078	16,112			
Lecale Lower, -	2,360	12,825			
Mourne, -	2,196	11,638			
Newry Lordship, 2,840		16,366			
	<u>53,310</u>	<u>287,290</u>			

Baronies, Half Baronies, or Parishes.	No. of Houses.	Gross Population.	Baronies, Half Baronies, or Parishes.	No. of Houses.	Gross Population.
FERMANAGH.			KILDARE.		
i Glenawly, -	2,348	13,941	Carbury, -	1,472	8,940
i Coole, -	1,172	6,710	Claine, -	1,054	6,470
Knockinny, -	1,225	8,054	Connell Great, -	1,029	6,216
i Clonkelly, -	1,835	10,219	Ikeathy & Oughterany, -	950	5,616
i Lurge, -	3,424	19,396	Killecullen, -	520	2,778
i Magheraboy, -	3,144	18,149	Naas, North, -	1,040	6,048
Magherastephena, -	2,876	16,698	Naas, South, -	654	3,753
i Tyrkennedy, -	3,267	18,083	Moone and Kilkea, -	1,483	9,077
	<u>19,291</u>	<u>111,250</u>	Narragh & Rheban W, -	1,051	5,622
			Narragh & Rheban E, -	1,089	6,318
			Ophaley East, -	1,144	6,253
			Ophaley West, -	1,522	7,674
			Salt North, -	995	6,903
			Salt South, -	561	3,465
				<u>14,564</u>	<u>85,133</u>
GALWAY.			KILKENNY CITY. ...		
Arran half Barony, -	395	2,402			
i Athenry, -	...	6,901	KILKENNY.		
Ballinacoe, -	...	...	i Grannagh, -	2,130	12,515
Ballinahinch, -	...	...	i Fassadinig, -	3,764	20,890
Ballicullen, -	...	...	i Galmoy, -	2,051	11,995
Clare, -	...	...	i Gowran, -	5,386	30,119
Clonmacnoon, -	1,691	9,584	Ida, -	2,240	13,938
Downamore, -	...	...	i Iverk, -	2,248	13,040
i Dunkellin, -	2,916	16,812	Kells, -	1,648	9,915
Kilconnell, -	2,150	12,125	Knocktopher, -	1,793	10,496
Killyan, -	1,969	10,824	i Shelillogher, -	1,149	6,768
Killimain, -	...	...	Callan Town & Lib, -	1,005	4,988
Kiltartan, -	2,965	154,17		<u>23,414</u>	<u>154,664</u>
i Loughrea, -	2,338	12,097			
i Longford, -	...	18,662			
i Moycullen, -	2,531	14,564			
i Leitrim, -	3,027	15,268			
i Ross, -	1,160	6,339			
Tyaquin, -	...	...	
	<u>21,122</u>	<u>140,995</u>			
GALWAY TOWN.			KING'S CO.		
Co. of Town, -	3,353	24,684	Balliboy, -	1,110	6,284
KERRY.			i Ballicowen, -	2,408	13,747
i Clanmaurice, -	4,235	22,467	i Ballibritt, -	2,319	13,645
i Coreaguinny, -	5,069	29,538	i Clonlisk, -	2,022	11,193
Dunkerrin, -	2,710	15,244	Coolestown, -	1,326	7,525
i Glanerought, -	2,029	12,174	i Eglis, -	919	5,122
i Iraghticonnor, -	2,810	16,880	i Garrycastle, -	4,106	22,367
i Iveragh, -	2,789	16,116	i Geashill, -	1,104	8,717
Maguiniky, -	5,207	28,408	i Killcoursey, -	1,350	7,117
i Truaghnamy, -	6,900	37,795	Phillipstown, Up, -	1,325	7,754
	<u>31,749</u>	<u>178,622</u>	Phillipstown, Low, -	1,132	6,052
			Warrenstown, -	584	3,723
				<u>19,705</u>	<u>113,226</u>

Baronies, Half Baronies, or Parishes.	No. of Houses.	Gross Population.
LEITRIM.		
i Carrigallen, -	3,329	17,634
Dromahaire, -	4,052	21,241
i Leitrim, -	3,991	20,904
i Mohill, -	3,874	19,833
Roscllogher, -	2,653	14,483
	<u>17,899</u>	<u>94,095</u>

LIMERICK CITY.

LIMERICK CO.

i Clanwilliam, -	2,322	13,772
Coonagh, -	1,924	11,644
Coshlea, -	4,774	28,340
Coshma, -	2,562	14,798
Kilmallock } Liberties, }	311	1,572
i Kenry, -	2,129	12,561
Owneybegg, -	1,097	6,212
i Poblebrien, -	1,328	7,336
Small Co. -	1,450	7,630
Connelloe Up. -	...	...
Connelloe Low. -	...	...
	<u>17,897</u>	<u>103,865</u>

LONDONDERRY.

i Coleraine H. Bar. -	1,712	23,889
Coleraine T. & Lib. -	1,674	8,817
i Kenoght, -	5,914	29,970
Londonderry, -	4,002	24,056
Loughlinsholin, -	12,419	69,874
i Tirkeeran, -	5,566	29,575
	<u>31,287</u>	<u>186,181</u>

LONGFORD.

Ardagh, -	2,917	17,787
Granard, -	4,582	28,171
Longford, -	3,615	20,589
Rathcline, -	2,090	11,464
Shrowie, -	1,431	8,267
Moydow, -	1,713	9,839
	<u>16,348</u>	<u>95,917</u>

LOUTH.

Ardee, -	...	...
Dundalk Up. -	...	...
Dundalk Low. -	...	...
Ferrard, -	...	...
Louth, -	...	...

MAYO.

i Burrishoole, -	4,857	26,920
Carragh, -	6,306	32,883
i Clonmorris, -	3,285	17,528
i Costello, -	5,441	28,333
Erris H. Bar. -	2,614	13,819
i Gallen, -	5,373	27,351
Kilmain, -	4,515	24,247
Morisk, -	3,803	21,702
i Tyrawley, -	7,508	44,588
	<u>43,702</u>	<u>237,371</u>

MEATH.

Deece lower, -	662	3,548
Deece upper, -	732	4,066
Duleek upper, -	1,358	7,827
Duleek lower, -	1,560	8,296
Dunboyne, -	338	2,163
Fower half, -	2,017	10,753
Kells lower, -	2,076	11,604
Kells upper, -	2,887	15,803
Lune, -	1,702	8,859
Morgallion, -	1,729	9,438
Moyfenragh, -	1,699	9,529
Moyfenragh up. -	1,292	7,089
Navan lower, -	2,493	13,027
Navan upper, -	718	3,682
Ratoath, -	866	5,289
Slane lower, -	1,442	7,790
Slane upper, -	1,180	6,519
Skreen, -	1,190	7,197
	<u>25,921</u>	<u>142,479</u>

MONAGHAN.

Crenmourne, -	7,147	35,428
i Dartree, -	4,551	26,442
Monaghan, -	7,108	39,505
Trough, -	2,998	15,230
i Farney, -	5,262	23,828
	<u>27,066</u>	<u>140,433</u>

Baronies, Half Baronies, or Parishes.	No. of Houses.	Gross Population.
QUEEN'S CO.		
i Ballyadams, -	1,187	6,580
Cullinagh, -	2,311	12,995
Maryborough E.	1,455	9,191
i Maryborough W.	2,528	13,890
Portneehinch, -	2,113	11,904
Sliemargy, -	2,137	12,750
Stradbally, -	1,193	6,939
Tinnehinch, -	2,151	11,538
Ossory, -	4,857	28,070
	<u>19,932</u>	<u>113,857</u>

ROSCOMMON.		
Athlone, -	6,781	33,826
Ballinroe half, -	1,050	5,691
Ballintobber, -	8,728	45,005
Boyle, -	7,815	41,474
Moycarne, -	964	5,031
Roscommon, -	4,916	27,083
	<u>30,254</u>	<u>158,110</u>

SLIGO.		
i Carbury, -	...	...
i Corran, -	...	...
i Liney, -	...	...
i Tyragherill, -	234	1,099
i Tyreragh, -	...	...
i Coolavan H. Bar.	...	...
	<u>234</u>	<u>1,099</u>

TIPPERARY.		
Clanwilliam, -	5,861	34,915
Eliogurty, -	5,288	29,810
Iffa and Offa, E.	5,217	33,597
i Iffa and Offa, W.	5,409	30,801
Ikerrin, -	3,625	19,965
i Kilnemana, -	3,808	22,772
Middlethird, -	5,306	32,078
Ormond, Up. -	3,124	17,579
Ormond, Low.	5,355	28,529
Owney and Arran,	3,458	19,288
Sleewarda, -	3,773	21,397
	<u>50,224</u>	<u>290,531</u>

TYRONE.		
Clogher, -	5,857	31,530
Dungannon, -	18,825	100,175
i Omagh, -	10,207	56,865
Strabane, -	11,324	62,176
	<u>46,213</u>	<u>250,746</u>

Baronies, Half Baronies, or Parishes.	No. of Houses.	Gross Population.
WATERFORD CO.		
Coshbride and Coshmore, }	4,169	21,939
Decies without,	5,494	37,458
Decies within,	2,718	16,752
Glanehire, -	642	4,028
Gualtiere, -	1,499	9,573
Upperthird, -	3,074	19,254
Middlethird, -	1,746	10,453
	<u>19,342</u>	<u>119,457</u>

WATERFORD CITY.		
13 Parishes, -	3,581	25,467

WESTMEATH.		
Brawney, -	...	...
Clonolan, -	...	...
Corkerry, -	...	...
Delvin, -	...	...
Demifore, -	...	...
Farbill, -	1,269	7,319
Fartullagh, -	...	...
i Brawney Clonolan and Kilkenny west, }	2,464	15,674
Moygoish, -	...	...
Moycastle, -	...	...
Rathconragh, -	2,338	12,696
i Moyashel & Magheradernan, }	...	...
	<u>6,071</u>	<u>35,689</u>

WEXFORD.		
Ballagheene, -	...	...
Bantry, -	...	...
Bargie, -	...	...
Forth, -	...	...
Gorey, -	...	...
Scarewalsh, -	...	...
Shelburne, -	...	...
Shelmaleire, -	...	...

WICKLOW.		
Arklow, -	2,867	18,248
Ballinacor, -	3,039	18,419
Newcastle, -	...	...
Rathdown, -	1,165	7,287
i Shilelagh, -	1,971	12,122
i Talbotstown Low.	1,869	11,250
i Talbotstown Up.	2,534	15,783
	<u>15,445</u>	<u>83,109</u>

ACCOUNT of an Attempt made by the Author of the Statistical Survey of Ireland, during the progress of the Census of 1813, to ascertain the proportion between the Protestant and Catholic portions of the Population of Ireland.

If, as the preceding account proves, the attainment of an accurate census of the Population of Ireland be attended with so many difficulties, it must be evident that an enquiry into the relative numbers of Protestants and Roman Catholics presents difficulties still more formidable. Such attempts however had been made at several times; but, as they were all founded on a basis still more uncertain with respect to this point than that of the actual enumeration of souls, it is unnecessary to retrace the progress of calculations which can be deemed little better than mere conjecture. In the census of 1812, the legislature wisely abstained from touching on this question, which could have only tended to encrease the difficulties of the process without producing a satisfactory result. But the compiler of the Statistical Survey of Ireland, anxious to forward every enquiry tending to throw new lights on the objects of his favourite researches, took advantage of his literary connection with the established Clergy of Ireland to investigate this point, and, though not buoyed up with the expectation of obtaining indisputable results, thus hoped to approximate nearer to certainty than had been effected by the calculations of preceding theorists.

The conclusion he found himself authorised to draw was as follows: in the ecclesiastical province of Armagh, the proportion of Protestants to Roman Catholics appeared to be as 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$; in that of Dublin, as 1 to 5; in that of Cashel, as 1 to 10; and in that of Tuam as 1 to 20; and upon summing up the numbers of each province into one total, the relative proportion throughout the island was calculated to be as 1 to $2\frac{3}{4}$.

The process adopted by Mr. Shaw Mason for attaining this conclusion, will best be understood by extracts from a statement which he laid before His Excellency Earl Whitworth, then Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

“A combination of circumstances has induced the writer of this memoir to endeavour to ascertain the numerical proportion which the two great religious sects in Ireland bear to each other, on surer and more satisfactory grounds than had hitherto been attempted. Having opened a communication with the Clergy of Ireland, on a

subject intimately connected with its population, application was made to each of them, individually, with a view of ascertaining the actual numbers of the Sectarian population of this part of the Empire."

"Returns from upwards of 200 parishes, containing a population of about 750,000 souls, have been obtained. These returns, coming from every quarter of the country, present some very curious matter for observation. It appears from them, that in one of the parishes of the Diocese of Down and Connor, there is neither Protestant of the established church nor Roman Catholic; in three other parishes in the same diocese, there is not a single Roman Catholic. In some other parishes the numbers of this sect appear to be very few, while in many others they form a considerable majority."

"It is to be regretted that returns have not been received for the whole, or, at least, from a much larger portion of the country; yet from their authenticity, and their having been received from all parts of Ireland, the abstract drawn from them probably forms the best document extant as to this point. It may not, therefore, be uninteresting to apply it to the reasonings and observations of one of the most respectable writers on the subject, of the population of Ireland, and to consider how far it can be adduced either to confirm or overthrow his theories."

"Newenham, in his enquiry into the progress and magnitude of the Population of Ireland, page 305, observes, that in the three Provinces of Leinster, Munster, and Connaught, the Roman Catholics are to the Protestants as, at least, 9 to 1. The arrangement of the annexed summary being constructed according to the ecclesiastical divisions of Ireland, any deduction taken from it cannot assimilate exactly with the civil divisions adopted by Newenham; but on subtracting the population of the province of Armagh, (which contains the whole of Ulster, and a part of Leinster,) it will be found that the numbers in the summary are nearly in the same proportion as laid down by this writer."

"But though in this instance a singular coincidence appears between Mr. Newenham's deductions and the numbers in the annexed summary, yet in the calculations made by him respecting the numerical proportion of Roman Catholics to Protestants throughout Ireland, a considerable difference exists. His estimate gives a proportion of 4 to 1, while that of the summary makes it to be $2\frac{3}{4}$ to 1.

"Many other observations might be deduced from the following document, with reference to the opinions not only of Newenham, but of Young, Wakefield, and other statistical writers on Ireland. The object of the present statement, however, was, after commu-

nicating the information contained in the abstract, to point out how very little the most ingeniously devised theory can be depended on, in comparison with conclusions drawn from a collection of facts, and also with how much facility such a collection could be formed by an inquiry well conducted, and including every part of Ireland within its scope."

The result of this writer's labours are summed up in the ensuing table, and though it leaves this important theorem still unsolved, and though much also still remains to be done in order to its perfect solution, yet every such inquiry is a step gained towards the ultimate triumph of truth over conjecture. However incomplete the immediate success, every person who wishes to serve his country in the useful, though laborious field of statistical research, should act upon the sentiment conveyed in the motto judiciously selected by the author to stand in the title of his work, that "an attempt should be made and the truth sought after, for although it may not be wholly attainable, we shall at least draw nearer to it, than we are at present."



See page XXI. The following process was devised by Mr. Patrick Lynch, the author of several ingenious treatises relative to Ireland and of various tracts on philological subjects, in order to complete the tables of the population of Ireland, on the basis of the returns for those counties which were complete.

From the number of houses returned to parliament in 1791, he deducted that of the houses returned in 1777, and thence inferred, that, as the intervening term of 14 years between 1777 and 1791, is to the difference or increase of houses thus found, so is the interval of 25 years, viz. from 1791 to 1814 to a fourth number; which, added to the number of houses in 1791, should give a number equal to that of the houses in 1814.

Thus, from the houses in Antrim County in 1791, amounting to 30314, deduct the number of houses in the same county in 1777, amounting to 23314, and there remains an increase of 7500 houses during the 14 years; then, as 14 years are to 7500, (the increase during that period, so are 25 years to 18321 houses, the increase during the latter period; which added to 30314, (the number of houses in 1791), gives a total of 42625 houses for 1814. The number of houses returned for that county in 1813 was 42,258, being but 367 less than what results from the calculation.

By a similar process, Carlow County will be found to contain 12,834 houses; the census of 1813 returned 12020, making a difference between fact and calculation of only 744. These examples tend to prove the utility of the method, when more accurate conclusions cannot be attained. The number of houses multiplied by 5.78 or $5\frac{3}{4}$ persons to a house, will give the number of souls.

The population of Ireland, according to this process, will be found to amount to nearly 5,937,856 souls.

AN ABSTRACT and SUMMARY of the several Returns made by the Established Clergy of Ireland, of the Population of their respective Parishes. May, 1814.

ABSTRACT.

Diocess.	Number of Parishes.	Established Church.	Dissenters.	Total Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Total Population.
Armagh, -	17	13,703	12,521	26,224	35,227	61,451
Clogher, -	12	18,827	5,700	24,527	29,705	54,232
Meath, -	17	1,944	20	1,964	39,890	41,854
Down, &c. -	24	16,703	45,252	61,955	19,403	81,358
Derry, -	7	2,384	9,506	11,890	21,494	33,384
Raphoe, -	5	5,560	750	6,310	9,005	15,315
Kilmore, -	5	1,343	2,357	3,700	24,381	28,081
Dromore, -	7	9,497	11,470	20,967	10,261	31,228
	94	69,961	87,576	157,537	189,366	346,903
Dublin, -	12	5,011	66	5,077	20,329	25,406
Kildare, -	5	6,463	110	6,573	19,028	25,601
Ossory, -	8	1,117	000	1,117	13,978	15,095
Leighlin, &c. -	15	5,526	139	5,665	40,547	46,212
	40	18,117	315	18,432	93,882	112,314
Cashel, -	3	234	7	241	7,533	7,774
Waterford, &c. -	7	303	12	315	7,342	7,657
Limerick, &c. -	10	2,268	00	2,268	29,515	31,783
Cork, &c. -	8	6,627	97	6,724	38,559	45,283
Cloyne, -	5	588	00	588	12,516	13,104
Killaloe, &c. -	26	6,778	75	6,853	79,450	86,303
	59	16,798	191	16,989	174,915	191,904
Tuam, &c. -	9	2,897	60	2,957	56,165	59,122
Elphin, -	5	730	12	742	14,017	14,759
Clonfert, -	0					
Killala, &c. -	2	1,047	00	1,047	16,755	17,802
	16	4,674	72	4,746	86,937	91,683

SUMMARY.

Provinces.	Number of Parishes.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Total Population.	Proportion of Roman Catholics to Protestants.
Armagh, -	94	157,537	189,366	346,903	about $1\frac{1}{2} : 1$
Dublin, -	40	18,432	93,882	112,314	— $5 : 1$
Cashel, -	59	16,789	174,915	191,904	— $10 : 1$
Tuam, -	16	4,746	86,937	91,683	— $20 : 1$
	209	197,504	545,100	742,804	$2\frac{3}{4} : 1$
If we deduct the Province of Armagh,		157,537	189,366	346,903	
there remains		39,967	355,734	395,901	about $9 : 1$

*** While these Sheets were at Press the writer met with an Account of the Population of Ireland, which had till then escaped his notice. It is to be found in the second part of "Dobbs's essay on the Trade and Improvement of Ireland," published in 1731, and contains an Account of the number of houses in the years 1712, 1718, 1725, and 1726. As these are avowedly taken from the books returned by the Collectors of the Hearth-money, and therefore rest on the same basis with those already noticed in the preceding pages as being drawn from the same source, it is evident that they can make no alteration in the conclusions formed therein; or rather, they serve to confirm the necessity of an enumeration founded upon principles of greater accuracy. The numbers, however, are here given in order to make the analysis of the attempts to solve this question as complete as possible. They are as follow :

<i>Year.</i>	<i>No. of Houses.</i>	<i>Population at 6 to a House.</i>
1712	349,849	2,099,094
1718	361,508	2,169,048
1725	386,229	2,317,374
1726	384,851	2,309,106

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WITH DIRECTIONS FOR PLACING THEM.

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11 Stone Crosses in the Parish of Tullaroan,	to face page 610
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14 Interior view of ditto,	to face page 678

*It is requested that MS. Corrections may be made in their
respective places of the following important*

ERRATA:

For "during," at the 2d line from top of p. 567, read "dying."—For "bold etymology," at 3d line from bottom of p. 585, read "bald etymology".—

The epitaph at the 13th line of page 673, beginning—"Here lies the body of Madam Frances Walker," and ending "arce Deo," ought to follow the words "Richard Grace, Esq. M. P." at the 16th line of page 672.

The Greek quotation "ΧΑΙΡΕ ΤΥΧΗ," &c. (and the consecutive matter on the same subject) at the 21st line of page 673, ought to follow the words "allowed to be difficult," at the 12th line of the same page.

Instead of the word "fa," and figure "8," at the 12th line of page 674, read "anno."

For "8," at the 14th line of page 677, read "3."

Introduce the words "Alicia, daughter of," between the second and third words (viz. "of" and "Daniel,") in the 4th line from the bottom of page 681.

Omit the word "Guillelm,i" with which the 10th line of page 687 commences.

For "Joanam," at the 11th line of page 691, read "Joanam."

For "1779," at the 9th line of page 699, read "1781."

For "1509," at the 2d line from the bottom of page 699, read "1500."



A
STATISTICAL ACCOUNT
OF
IRELAND, &c.

No. I.

PARISH OF

A R D A G H,

(*Diocese of Cloyne and County of Cork,*)

BY THE REV. JOHN MACBETH, CURATE.

I. *The Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

THE ancient and modern names of this parish are Name.
the same. It is situated in the barony of Imokilly, Situation:
in the county of Cork and diocese of Cloyne, lying
in about 50° north latitude, and about 7° 55'
west longitude; and is bounded on the east by the Boundaries
parish of Templemichael, in the county of Water-
ford; on the north by the parish of Tallow; on the
west by that of Dingandonovan; and on the south
by that of Clonpriest.

This parish is divided into ten townlands and a Divisions.
half, (for which, together with their divisions and
sub-divisions, see the appendix); and contains about Contents.
8000 acres, of which about 3500 can be tilled or

used as meadow-land ; the rest is heathy mountain-ground, which affords, however, in summer, pasturage for dry black cattle. This heathy mountain-ground affords abundance of excellent turf fuel ; but there are no hills of any consideration. The only bog is Whitebog, which is an excellent turbary.

Fuel.
Bog.
River. The Toorig is the only river in the parish ; it has its rise about four or five miles north of the parish, runs through the centre of it in a southern direction for about three miles, then takes an eastern course till it runs through Two-mile-bridge, and thence into the Blackwater, a mile north of Youghal.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

There are no iron mines, minerals, &c. in this parish.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

Wooden Bridge. As for modern buildings, such as infirmaries, hospitals, &c. there are none in the parish ; nor is there any town or bridge, except that on the Toorig, at Inchinrinka, where is a kind of wooden bridge, which is very useful to the parishioners in wet weather, for the river is much subject to mountain floods, that generally rise very high, so that, but for this bridge, the western part of the parishioners would often be obliged to remain at home on Sundays from divine service. It is formed of two planks, supported by wooden legs, with an abutment on each side of the river for the ends of the planks to rest on ; the two planks are formed of a tree of about 40 or 50 feet long, sawed through the centre ; of course it is very strong, and has an iron balustrade on one side for the hand. The road from

Roads.

Youghal to Fermoy runs through a skirt of the south Roads. part of the parish to Monovarnogue, which is its most western point. The other roads are all narrow, ill made, and in many places nearly impassable.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

There is nothing whatever of this kind to report.

V. *Present & Former State of Population, Food, &c.*

The number of families in this parish is 309 ; Population as for the relative numbers of males and females, it is not easy to give an account of them.* Their sole occupation is agriculture, on a confined scale, there being no large farms in the country. The people here are very inferior in point of wealth; their dress (especially when they come to markets or to Dress. their place of worship) is better than either their food or their manner of living at home. They are in general healthy, but there are no extraordinary instances of longevity.

VI. *Genius & Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.*

The people are very industrious, and they have a good market for their commodities, the town of Youghal being within 6 miles of the most western part of the parish, and within 3 miles of the eastern part of it. The language generally used is Irish ; Language. yet the great majority of the parishioners can speak English tolerably. No patrons are held, of course here are no patron days or traditions concerning them.

* For further particulars as to these points, see Appendix.

VII. The Education & Employment of Children, &c.

Education. There is but one school in the parish, in which the children are instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic, but very few are bound to any trade. No employment whatever offers for children, except the occasional assistance given in the small farms, into which the land is divided. No public library or collection of Irish or other MSS. is to be found here.

VIII. State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.

Advowson. The parish of Ardagh is yet in the gift of Government; but a caveat has been lodged in the Consistorial Court of Cloyne by Lord Ponsonby, in case of vacancy by demise. It is not united to any other parish.

Glebe. There is but one church and one chapel in the parish; the former situated on the glebe of Ardagh, which consists of five plantation acres on an exposed hill, the approaches to which are scarcely practicable; the chapel stands on part of the lands of Barranavadane, commonly known by the name of Inchinrinka, on the Toorig.

Tythes. The rates of tythes are, as they should be, moderate, the crops being in general very indifferent, by reason of the bad quality of the greater part of the soil, and the very faulty and exhausting system of husbandry. The incumbent, who is also rector of Painestown, in the county of Meath, where he generally resides, can only occasionally spend part of the year at Youghal, the nearest point where a residence can be procured; his curate of Ardagh residing in a small house on the glebe. The rector

being thus unable to attend to the tythes, has made annual bargains with a person for them, who, without any exception, deals with the occupiers, at from four to seven shillings per English acre for potatoes and barley; and from three to six shillings for oats. As to wheat, the quantity in the parish is too inconsiderable to mention; and barley having latterly failed, this mountainous moist climate being unfit for its growth, it may be said that the only grain now cultivated is oats.

There are no parish funds, save the cess imposed at Easter for the repairs of the church, at which divine service is regularly performed, though there is but one resident Protestant family.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

The inhabitants are very tenacious of the old modes of agriculture, old stocks of cattle, &c. No amendment whatever has taken place in their husbandry; and as for the rents of this parish, as most of the lands are set by the lump, it is not very easy to give any account of the acreable prices; but some of the lands (the leases of which have expired a few years ago) have been surveyed and set at an acreable price, which is from three half guineas to twenty shillings per acre, and may be almost counted as rack-rents, were it not for the high prices of corn.* No fairs are held in this parish; it is in fact much shut out from other parishes, nor have strangers any intercourse with the inhabitants, there being, to speak correctly, no high road through it, no resident gentlemen, no village, trade nor manufacture.

* This account was written before the peace of 1815.

X. *Trade, Manufactures, &c.*

Previously answered.

XI. *Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.*

Nothing under this head merits attention, except the following list of Incumbents, which has been formed from the First-Fruits' Records.

Incumbents.

Capella de Ardagh, Membrum Collegii de Youghall; the Church and Chancel ruynous for these twenty yeares; served heretofore by Mr. Hawckes, now by Mr. Wood.

Georgius Ledbeter admiss. 10^o Aug. 1637, ad Rector. integram de Ardagh dioc. Clonen. et Com. Corke; non tax.

Wmus. Fitzgerald admiss. fuit 15^o December, 1671, ad Rector. integram Eccle. polis. de Ardagh dioc. Clonen. et Com. Corke.

Revus. Arthurus De Anverse Clicus. ad Rectorias integras de Cloinpriest et Ardagh octavo die mensis Aug. in anno. 1720, pd. et admiss. et institut. fuit.

Wm. Chartres Rect. Cloinpriest et Ardagh, 18th May, 1755; n. t.

John Killeen, D. D. R. of Ardagh and R. of Cloinpriest, 5th Oct. 1764. Co. Corke; n. t.

Brinsley Nixon, A. M. collated and instituted 28th July, 1789, R. of Ardagh, Corke; n. t.

XII. *Suggestions for Improvement, and means for meliorating the condition of the People.*

Good roads, and larger farms, inducing the settlement of persons qualified and able to set an example of improved systems of agriculture and of good order, would tend much to better the situation of the parishioners.

APPENDIX.

TOWNLANDS, &c. IN ARDAGH.

No.	Name of Town-lands.	Probable Derivations and English Import.	Chief Proprietors	No. of Acres.	No. of Houses.	No. of Families.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1	Breda	Top of both streams.	Lord Ponsonby	Not ascertained, the southern part of the parish only being surveyed; the north is all mountainous, tho' not high land.	306	309	978	923	1901
2	Ballydaniel	Danielstown.	owns about five-						
3	Cummeenbeg	Little Commons.	sixths of the pa-						
4	Ballyneague	Townland of Hunting.	rish— Norman						
5	Ballyglavin	Not obvious.	Uniacke, of Mt.						
6	Curraghna- veigh	Moorwood of Deer or of Birch.	Uniacke, a mi- nor, the remain- der.						
7	Parkaneague, or Youghal Park	Park of Hunting.							
8	Ragh	An Intrenchment.							
9	Barranavidane	Upper ford of Reeds.							
10	Carriganassa	Rock of the Waterfall.							
11	Knoeknaga- pack	Hill of Dock Leaves or Weeds.							
12	Beenoughter & Ballycoleman	Upper Summit. Coleman's Town.							
13	Ballintosig	Chieftain's Land.							
14	Ballynahila	Townland of Precipice.							
15	Ballymackibbit	Toby's Son's Townland.							
16	Ballygrona	Not obvious.							
17	Drishanebeg	Little Briar, or Little John's							
18	Monabraher	Brother's, or Friar's Turf.							
19	Monavarnogue and	Moor or Bog of Alders.							
20	Ballynock	Townland of the Hill.							

The above is from the return of the Barony Collector, made by personal examination two years ago, and is supposed to be as accurate as any report ever made. One thing is remarkable, as being a single instance which occurred in a very extensive census made by Mr. Gibson, the gentleman alluded to—viz. the number of males in Ardagh exceeding that of the females. In no other place in the barony of Imokilly did the males equal the number of females.—In Ardagh, it appears, there is no spirit of emigration, nor have the young men enlisted or gone to sea as in other parishes.

No. II.

PARISHES OF

ARDCLINIS AND LAID,

(Diocese of Connor and County of Antrim,)

BY THE REV. STEWART DOBBS, CURATE.

I. *Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

THE parish of Ardclinis, or Ardcleny, being contiguous to and nearer Glenarm than that of Layd, Laid, or Lede, shall be first described. The arable and inhabited part of this parish consists of one long stripe, extending from the small village of Carnalough along the sea coast into Red Bay, and up one side of the beautiful glen of Glenariff. It is enclosed on the land side by a steep and high mountain, to be ascended only by narrow paths traversing its sides, by which the inhabitants convey their fuel of turf on slide cars, composed of two poles, fastened by rungs in the hinder part, on which is placed a wicker creel, about a yard square ; having no wheels, it does not press on the ponies which draw it downwards, and it is so light as to be easily drawn up when empty.

Situation.

The extent of the cultivated part of the parish is Extent. about nine miles and a half; viz. three and a half from Carnalough to the entrance of Red Bay, or, as it is commonly called, Foran Path or Garron Point; three to the inner shore, and three up the glen towards the interior of the country. The arable ground from the sea to the hill does not exceed one quarter of a mile in breadth, and in some places not one tenth, except across the Red Bay to a little village called the Waterfoot of the Acre, or Glenariff River, about a mile, mostly sandy ground, and occupied as a rabbit-warren, till lately cultivated for potatoes, which are planted on sea-weed—at Carnalough, also, it is about a mile broad. Excepting at Boundaries the village now named, the river Acre is the mearing between the parishes of Laid and Ardclinis. The river must have a little changed its course at this point.

Ardclinis lies in the barony of lower Glenarm, Situation. county of Antrim, and diocese of Connor. It is Boundaries bounded on the north and north-east by the sea and Red Bay; on the north and north-west by the parish of Laid; on the south by the parish of Teckmacreevan or Glenarm, from which it is divided by the little rivulet of Carnalough; on the west and south-west by the parishes of Dunaghy and Skerry.

In general, a portion of these mountains, which lie from six to seven hundred feet above the level of the sea, or so many sums grazing, are attached to each denomination of the low land; a sum consists of either eight wethers, six ewes and six lambs, or a cow; a horse is one sum and a half. Just above

Bay Lodge is the highest part of these mountains, called Carneal-apt-aura, near Broughshane.

River. The Acre River rises in the neighbouring mountains, and affords some good trout. There is also a salmon-fishery where it empties itself into the sea, the mother fish spawning in the river. It is worthy of remark, that the fry leave the river in April, scarcely two ounces in weight, the large salmon waiting for them, and in the month of June they begin to return, always from the southward, in shoals, weighing from four to eight pounds each. They are remarked as differing from the Bann salmon in being longer in proportion, and not so well shaped. The other fish of this bay consist of cod, lythe, (in figure and shape like cod,) turbot, different kinds of flat fish, mullet, mackrel, glashen, and herrings, caught both by draft and drift nets; the only shell-fish are lobsters and crabs, which are taken in great numbers. The greatest difficulty in being supplied with fish at all times, is want of bait, which very often cannot be got—however, when the weather permits, the nets answer the purpose. At particular times sand-ells are taken in great quantities; they make excellent bait.

Game. The mountains are mostly covered with heath, and supply moor game in the season. The black game have been brought from Scotland, but will not live in Ireland. There are some partridge, and, in winter, woodcocks and snipe.—Oak and fir trees are found lying in different directions, some feet deep in the turf bogs on the mountains; and it is in memory when Glenariff was covered with trees, so that it was a saying, that a man could cross the glen upon

Trees.

them—now there is nothing but underwood, and Trees.
even that is disappearing fast ; a few old trees near
the houses still remain. Ash, larch, fir, sycamore,
and alder, seem to grow best ; apple and small fruit
trees do well when planted in sheltered gardens.

Glenariff, one of the seven great glens, is flat in Glens.
the centre. The river moves in a serpentine manner
through its whole extent : and, being nearly as low
as the sea half way up the glen, whenever a high tide
meets a flood, it overflows a great part of the grounds.
The glen comes to a point where the roads to Bal-
lymena from each side meet, about three miles from
the sea ; its base, formed by the sandy beach, extend-
ing about a mile. The rise on each side of the glen
forms towards the rocks a circular appearance of
rising ground ; two-thirds of it are cultivated ; shells
and sea-gravel are found under the present surface.
As far as relates to the glens in general, including
those both in the parishes of Ardclinis and Laid, it
may be stated, that one-half of Glenariff is in the
parish of Ardclinis, and the other in that of Laid.—
Glen Ballymen is in the parish of Laid, as is also
Glenanne, Glencorp and Glendun, besides others of
inferior note.

The number of acres in Ardclinis, as reported by Contents.
the Down Survey and Antrim Report, amounted to
about 9500 ; the one-half may be allowed as fit for
pasturage and arable, leaving one-half, or 4750 acres,
of mountain, one-fourth of which may be useful for
sheep. The appearance of the parish of Laid is of
hill and dale of large dimensions ; the cultivation
rises high up the hills, and consists of potatoes, oats,

barley, flax, and rearing small cattle and sheep in the pasturable parts of the mountains.

- Boundaries** Laid is bounded on the north by the parish of Culfeightrin; on the east by the Irish Channel, or Northern Passage; on the west by the parish of Dunaghy; and on the south by the parish of Ardclinis.
- Extent.** Its extent along the shore may be about six miles, from the inland about five and a quarter, in some places less. From the nature of the lands, and the manner in which they are set, it is impossible to ascertain the exact number of acres; but it may be conjectured that the parish is five and a quarter miles in length by six in breadth, of which, 5714 acres, paying cess, are in cultivation, including meadow and milch cows' grass. Up Glendun, on the opposite side of the river, is a small tract which
- Grange.** belongs to the parish of Laid, called the Grange of Ennisfallen, and which pays no tythes, as being held by Bishop's lease; it is now in the possession of the Rev. John Smith. At the head of Glendun is
- Mountain.** Slievenahorra, a mountain whose summit is 1870 feet above the level of the sea. On the top of this mountain there are evident marks of two graves, said to be those of Hugh M'Pheilim O'Neill, and of a servant of Hugh O'Neill; one on the Dunluce side of the mearing, between it and Lower Glenarm,
- Tradition.** and the other on the Glenarm side. The tradition is, that a great battle was fought on this mountain between the M'Quillans and the M'Donnells.
- Fishery.** Salmon is caught in this parish at the mouth of all the rivers; and as it forms one side of Red Bay, a bay with good anchorage, and safe in all winds but

an easterly one, all the points mentioned in Ardclinis parish, as to the fisheries, relate to this.

In Laid the land is good, and has a quantity of Soil, meadow in the low grounds. There is a general observation, that though the grounds are sowed earlier by three weeks in the north, or Laid side, than in the south side of Glen Glenariff, the crops come in earlier in the latter. It can only be accounted for by supposing it to be occasioned by the north side being shaded from the sun in the autumn, during the latter part of the day, by the high hill of Lurgethan, which bounds Glenariff to the north.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

The coast is covered with white limestone, which Limestone. is easily burned by turf or coal from Ballycastle or Scotland; it is good manure for most lands. In the immediate vicinity of the sea, the use of sea-weed for kelp manure is very common. A considerable quantity of kelp is made along this shore.

In Laid parish are some good quarries of coarse Freestone. freestone, of which are made flags for floors or building. It has been thought that coals could be Fuel. found in this parish, but that they would not defray the expense of mining. Turf is the general fuel, and, when cut in the mountains and well saved, is almost as hard as coal, and produces a very strong and clear fire. White limestone is abundant in most Lime, parts of the parish, and a great quantity is burned when turf is plenty. At Tieve Bouilue, the property of Lord Mark Kerr, a road is making from the main road, to encourage the business, but lime burn-

ed with coal, particularly blind coal, is far superior for every use. Some years ago, the father of the present Mr M'Auley of Glenville built kilns, and gave lime to such of his tenants as would be at the trouble of drawing it. The offer was then accepted but by few; now the farmers will lay out from six to eight pounds per acre for it; the increase of rents, with the proportionate demand for provisions, may account for the change.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

Village.

The village of Carnalough can boast of nothing remarkable; it contains two public-houses. It is about 29 miles north of Belfast, and Belfast is in the latitude of 54° 35' 43'' N. and longitude 5° 58' 14'' west of London,

Roads.

The road from Carnalough to Red Bay is very hilly. From the Point, the road lies through limestone rocks that have fallen from the hills upwards of 800 feet high, so that in a winter storm a traveller is exposed to stones from above, the spray of the sea beneath, and the risk of slipping, in some spots of the road, from pressure of the clay under his feet. It is not forty years since this south entrance to the low glens was impassable for any thing but a single horse, and even that with difficulty. The road has gradually been improved, and now numbers of travellers pass on their way to the Giant's Causeway, and greater improvements are making for the convenience of passengers, particularly at the Point of Garron, where there is an almost perpendicular hill of short ascent. Francis Turnly, Esq. who purchased a property in the parish of Ardclinis,

is endeavouring to relieve it at his own expense, and Roads.
at no distant period a great improvement on this line
of road may be expected. In tracing it from
Glenarm, the traveller may remark, after imme-
diately passing the village of Carnalough, on the right
hand, a quay, made by the late Mr. Philip Gibbons, Quay.
at his own expense; it cost £1200, and though it is
not of much use at present, as there is no trade, the
intention was laudable, and it may be of service
hereafter.

About three-quarters of a mile on the left is Lim- Gentle-
nalary House, the residence of Peter Mathewson, Esq. men's Seats
Captain of the Glenarm yeomanry; it was built by a
Gentleman of the name of M'Collum. About a School.
mile further, on the left, is a very neat and elegant
school-house, built by Francis Turnly, Esq. on the
foundation of Sir Erasmus Smith, for the education
of 40 boys and 40 girls; this is the only school in
the parish; the arrangements are nearly completed.
In the rear of this house and, among some venerable
trees, close to the site of an old house called Drum-
nasole, Mr. Turnly is building a most commodious
and excellent house, 63 feet square, and four stories
high, including garrets and underground apartments,
with back additions; as it is built much out of view,
the taste displayed in its erection can only be judged
by the finish of the school-house in front. A great
deal of planting is in forwardness.

At a short distance, on the right, is Nappen, the Gentle-
residence of John Higginson, Esq. Major of the men's Seats
Antrim Militia. The ground rising to the mountains
is beautifully covered with hazel and other trees to

Gentle-
men's Seats the very top. There is a good deal of ash and fir timber about the house, and a tolerably good orchard.

About four miles further, on the left, at the corner of Red Bay, is the house of the Rev. Richard Stewart Dobbs, called Bay Lodge, mostly built by himself; it is as pleasant and convenient a situation as any along the coast, and when the planting grows up will be well sheltered. Its contiguity to the beach for bathing, to the river and the sea for fishing, and to the mountainous ground for shooting, gives it many advantages. It has an excellent garden and orchard.

As we pass over the bridge on the Acre river from this parish into Laid, at the Waterfoot, on the left the road goes up the north side of Glenariff till it joins the road leading to Ballymena by the south side, passing Bay Lodge; it is not yet passable, except for single horses. After passing the bridge, the traveller on turning to the sea finds some curious caves, of which a fuller account will be given hereafter. In high tides in winter, and even in summer, there is sometimes a difficulty, if not an impossibility, in passing the waves.

The traveller then immediately comes to a steep hill called Crookanavick; by cutting down several feet of the top, it is easier of ascent and descent than formerly, but still is a very disagreeable pass. At the bottom of this hill, next the sea, on the entrance of the Acre river, is the salmon fishery formerly mentioned. On mounting the hill on the right hand side, nearly over the sea, the remains of Red Bay Castle are visible.

After leaving the hill, the small village of Red Bay appears. It belongs to Hugh Stewart Boyd, son of Hugh M'Aulay Boyd, Esq. the supposed author of Junius, according to Lawrence Dundas Campbell. It may be remarked here, that scarcely a gentleman in this parish has his property in one place, which perhaps arose from the same principle that acts upon the present occupiers of the land, who, when a townland is divided among them, divide the ground into good, middling, and bad, and each tenant takes a share of those divisions, commonly called a rundale. However, with some difficulty that system has in a great measure been broken through, the land valued, and each person enjoys his own share exclusively, which encourages the making of fences.

Proceeding from Red Bay to Cushendall, on the left is the seat of Samuel Boyd, Esq. called Mount Edwards. It is one of those old snug farm-houses that were built by gentlemen who got grants of tracts of land, in former days, from the Antrim family; they now make estates of some value; Mr. Boyd's ancestor was the holder of one of these. Since he has occupied it, great improvements have been made in gardening, planting, fencing and liming the farm, convenient and excellent out-houses erected, and an intention expressed to rebuild the house. The bold front of Lurick Gedden, or Lurg Gethan, lies just behind the house, 1100 feet above the level of the sea, or 984 feet from its base, as taken at Mount Edwards. On the right is the Catholic chapel. There is nothing remarkable between this and Cushendall, the mercantile village of this district. Doctor James M'Donnell, of Belfast, has planted near the

Gentle-
men's Seats

chapel a great number of trees, which are doing well. If his good wishes for the parish could be properly supported, he is entitled to every person's thanks for his endeavours to promote knowledge and give medical advice to those who apply from this district, which he estimates highly as the place of his nativity.

Village.

Cushendall lies about one mile north of the Water-foot bridge. If, before he enters the town or village of Cushendall, the traveller turns to the left, he finds himself in the direction of Ballymena, the road to which is carried up the mountains by the north side of Lurg Gethan, which joins the road of Glenariff to Ballymena, about five miles from Cushendall. At this place there is a mountain herd's house, where a traveller can get a glass of spirits, and where lives have been saved instead of license being paid. The parish has given £2 to encourage the man for affording occasional relief in winter storms to those attending Ballymena markets.

Road.

Mr. Turnly is busily employed in cutting a road round Red Bay Castle, by the shore, so as to avoid the steep hill which at present inconveniences travellers; it cannot be done without considerable expense, but will make the road completely level to Cushendall. The face of Lurg Gethan is covered with white limestone.

Cushendall lies somewhat less than a quarter of a mile from the sea, between rising grounds, and at the bottom of the glen of Ballymena; it is a neat village, containing four tolerable shops, four minor ones, six public houses, a post-office conducted by

Mr. Randall M'Donnell, and a considerable number of houses, one of which serves as a barrack for twenty men. It has a corn-mill, which is to be replaced by a market-house, a new building being in forwardness for a mill by Mr. Turnly. A late-erected mill for spinning flax, not at present occupied, but well situated for the business, with a house for a small family, is the property of Captain Lewry, of the Antrim Militia.

The River Dall, formed from the united streams of Glen Ballyeman and Glenanne, passes through the village under a neat bridge, between Cushendall and the shore. There is a large and convenient house begun by William Richardson, Esq. and finished by Mr. Turnly, the present possessor of Cushendall; it is intended for an hotel, with convenient stabling, so as to induce people to visit the town for the purpose of bathing, and for travellers to stop at; the house is near the sea, and water plenty at all times of the tide for bathing. Cushendall, the name of this village, in English the Foot of the River Dall, was changed by the late Surgeon Richardson to Newton-Glens, but under Mr. Turnly it has resumed its old name. There is nothing remarkable in Glen Ballyeman for beauty.

On leaving Cushendall on the old direct road, and proceeding up the hill, the traveller meets with a small fort, on which Mr. Turnly purposes to build a school-house—it will be in a very conspicuous situation; that and the other buildings about the town will give it a striking appearance. From the centre of Cushendall, on the right is the road to the shore, which runs over high ground command-

Gentle-
men's Seats

ing the sea till it comes to the village of Knocknacarry. Near this village is a tan-yard and a good house, belonging to Archibald and Charles M'Ilhereen, called Clony, about three miles from Cushendall. On this road there is nothing remarkable but the site of the old church, in a small glen near the sea, which is the chief burying ground of the parish; there are two other places for burying children. On approaching it, a neat place, with a new built house, called Moneyvert, presents itself, the residence of Mr. Michael Black. His brother is building a house, equally good, on the shore, in a situation very eligible for bathing but not for planting, of which there is a good deal about Moneyvert. From the centre of Cushendall on the left, is a new line of road through part of Glenanne and Glencorp, which, when finished, will form a perfect level to the village of Knocknacarry, equally distant as the road leading to the right. This line will pass Tromra, the residence of the late Rev. Daniel M'Arthur, who, with his father and grandfather, were curates in this parish for 100 years, prior to 1796. In this line of road is a great number of trees and respectable farm-houses.

On the right side from the church, on very high ground, is the seat of Alexander M'Aulay, or Macaulay, of Glenville, Esq. eldest brother of the supposed author of Junius. The house is well built, and is further remarkable for this singular motto engraven over the hall-door, "Dulce Periculum, Boot and Spurs." If the surrounding grounds had been planted, it would have been a very beautiful situation, at present it is rather exposed and bare; some planting, however, is in forwardness.

This centre road (passing mostly through an undulating country,) leads to the church. It was built Church. by the Rev. Richard Stewart Dobbs, in the year 1800, by subscription and parish cess; the late Col. M'Arthur, brother of the Rev. Daniel M'Arthur, contributed very handsomely to it in his will. It is to be observed, that this church or chapel received no assistance in aid of its erection from the Board of First Fruits, who declined giving money unless the old church was in ruins for 20 years. It is at present rather small for the congregation; if money can at any time be got for a larger church, the present chapel would answer for a parish school. There is no glebe-house in either parish, nor is there any church in Ardclinis.

On advancing to the right, a little round hill, call- Scenery.
ed Tievinrah, presents itself, which, if planted, would have a very picturesque effect. On the left opens the view of Tieve Bouilue, or side of a town, 842 feet above the level of the sea at Cushendall, with plenty of white limestone in front; and at the back of the rising ground is Trostram, 1800 feet above the level of the sea. In describing these mountains, there is little worthy of notice, but that, with the exception of some grazing here and there, they are all covered with heath, and afford good shooting in summer. Glenanne has little to recommend it. From the mountains to the river is one continued slope on both sides. The soil of the mountains is entirely a turf bog under the heath.

Before arriving at Knocknacarry, on turning to the Bridge.
left, the traveller comes to the new bridge over the Dan river, leading to Ballycastle, which conducts him

up Glendun, a very handsome glen, extending some miles in length; it is wider in some parts than in others, and there are some very romantic spots in it. It is only accessible to riders, as no roads have yet been made through it.

There is a road in progress up Glenanne, over the mountain to Ballymoney, which will be of essential use, and will join Glendun road. On passing through the village of Knocknacarry, a turn to the left leads to the old bridge, eight feet wide, over the Dun river, into the parish of Culfeightrin, which is the mearing of the parish at this point. On the right, from Knocknacarry, is a descent to the sea and to the little port of Cushendun, or foot of the river Dun, where a number of small vessels harbour all the winter; but vessels of 50 tons can cross the bar. From this town there is a constant passage of travellers to the opposite coast of Cantyre, in Scotland, who carry with them black cattle and pigs, and return with Highland ponys. The passage is about 16 miles, and may be made in three hours. At this place, close to the sea, are some curious caves, of which hereafter.

From this point there is a view of Cushendun house, on the other side of the river, the residence of Edmund M'Neile, Esq. The shore from Cushendall Bay to Cushendun is not accessible to boats, being bold and rocky, except where the old church or monastery was formerly built, and at a little port called Port Vinegar, behind a large rock, where in calm weather a vessel of twenty tons can discharge a cargo.

From the high grounds is a view of the Scotch coast from the Mull of Galloway to the Island of Mull, including the Islands of Isla, Jura with its three hills, called the Paps of Jura, the Mull of Cantyre, Arran, Bute, Rock of Ailsa, near the Ayrshire coast, &c. in which numerous vessels entering the channel for the different ports in the Clyde and the Irish Channel, serve to enliven the scene and cheer the imagination.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

In the parish of Ardclinis, near Ardclinis bridge Ruins. and Bay Lodge, are the remains of an old building, together with a burying ground.

In Laid parish, on Crooksnaveick hill, and nearly Ruined Castle. over the sea, are situated the ruins of an old building, now called Red Bay Castle, but in an old map it was called Castle Carey. Under it is a large vault, with an opening, from which the view is very agreeable to the eye.

On the top of Lurg Gethan is a Danish fort, and Danish Forts. the remains of a great dike across one part of the hill, enclosing about 40 acres. At the bottom of the south side is another Danish fort, at a place called the Nochans. There are many remains of small enclosures both in Ardclinis and Laid, which also are called Danish forts. At the point of Garron is a spot called Dunmall fort; this and many of the same description were intended to resist the incursions of the Scots, being fixed on situations not to be approached by sea, and in old times difficult of access

by land; they were easy of defence. The only appearance they now have is that of a great ditch, which, when perfect, might have prevented a sudden incursion; very little signs of stones appear in any of them. In the hill above Cushendall are the remains of another Danish fort.

Ruins.

Of the old church already noticed, nothing appears but the walls and a few tombstones of recent date, except one stone in the east of the walls, which bears the date of 1696. This must have reference to repairs, as the graves are nearly five feet higher than the present inside of the Church. The thigh bone of a man of very large stature is to be seen in a crevice of the wall. The two oldest tombstones are of Mathew Pettegrew, 1716, (the family is now extinct,) and Col. M'Donnell, 1719; this latter bears the Antrim arms.

V. *Present and former state of Population, Food, &c.*

Population In March, 1806, the Rev. Richard Stewart Dobbs, Curate, took an account of the population of this parish, and found it to consist of 119 Protestant families, containing 584 souls; 511 Catholic, containing 2430 souls; total 630 families, making 3014 inhabitants. By a late return, the increase seems about 730, and from less than five has increased to five and a half to a family—making 3750 souls.

Food:

The food of the inhabitants is generally oatmeal, potatoes, and milk, or fish. Except in some decent farmers' houses, the smoke comes more freely from the door than the intended chimney, which is gene-

rally at the gable of the house, the fire being on the floor. Till the great rise of lands, the farmers were considered wealthy, and gave great entertainments at weddings and christenings. The writer recollects port wine of excellent quality produced. Public christenings are now unusual.—Unfortunately, their character in this respect is now but too much the reverse, from high rents and low prices for butter, pork and yarn, the only articles depended upon to pay rents, &c. The paupers seldom exceed 16, and a small relief satisfies them, except in years of want.

In general this is considered a healthful country ; Health. few diseases are known, except consumption among the young, and low fevers.—There are many in- Longevity. stances of longevity. John M'Bride of Cushendall is nearly 100 years of age, as are several others. Mr. M'Aulay, of Glenville, and Owen M'Coy, his tenant, are both above 80, and their names are inserted as lives in a lease of lands held at four shillings per acre. Both men and women dress remarkably well. Dress. The young women generally carry their white stockings and dress shoes in their hands, going to Cushendall fair, (eight times in the year,) till they are just at the entrance of the village; they then stop at the nearest stream to wash and dress. The fairs now spoken Fairs. of are more attended for amusement than business, and though sometimes broken heads are their consequence, it cannot be said that they often lead to a result so common in many other parts of Ireland.

VI. *Genius and Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.*

The general conduct of the inhabitants is peace- Genius and Disposition able; they are amenable to the orders of their super-

iors. During a long residence of twenty-one years, as curate, the writer does not think it indispensably necessary to lock his door or bar his windows.—The inhabitants are generally free from vices. They have a great deal of natural shrewdness and address, and are remarkable for being liberal and attentive. If manufactures could be established, as they are inclined to make money, it would assist them in paying their rent, and give employment to most families; they have very little inclination for going abroad, and, consequently, so many remain at home, that numbers of them are left in involuntary idleness for nearly half the year. The great rise of rents must make them more industrious; but, at the same time, if provisions, consisting chiefly of butter and pork, fall, the farmer may find difficulty in paying his landlord, whose object must be to let his tenant have an interest in his farm, otherwise he must lose in the end, and the tenantry be careless whether they remain or not.

Character. The inhabitants of Laid are considered a shrewd, cunning people, with a great deal of native hospitality. Here, as well as in Ardclynis, they speak Irish fluently among themselves, and most of them very good English, perhaps better and in a purer dialect than many English. Irish, in the hills and tops of glens, is the most prevalent language; and there are some old people in remote places who can speak no other language, though they know the meaning of most English phrases: there are also some who cannot speak Irish, though they know it in part. The contiguity to Scotland occasions the language to partake more of the Scotch Erse than of the Southern Irish.

Near Cushendall is a small well, called Tobord-Holy Well. mony, or Sunday Well, which has its origin from being visited on that day for the cure of complaints, chiefly of children. A little pebble is thrown into the well, and a pin stuck in a bit of cloth left beside it—thousands of these shreds may be seen there; but the practice is in part given over, and the well is now assisting the race to turn a corn-mill. There are some prejudices as to disturbing old thorn trees. Superstitions. The curate has heard a man swear most solemnly, that he has seen some hundreds of the “wee folk” dancing round those trees, and told him he should suffer for meddling with them; and it is indisputable that he suffered next winter in his house and family, by destruction and fright from a violent storm. But as the whole island, and also Liverpool and other foreign parts, suffered likewise on the same day and night, he endeavoured to reason with the good man, that they all could not have suffered on his account. There is also among them a superstitious opinion as to cows’ milk blinked, so that it will not produce butter for several days’ churning, until some old woman with a charm does it away. Another relates to cows being elf-shot; and the inhabitants will shew you the spot where you may feel a hole in the flesh, but not in the skin, where the cow has been struck; she gives no milk till relieved. Whatever is the cause, there is something curious as to the fact.

There are very few families of Protestants and Catholics which are not intermarried with each other; of consequence, little or no bigotry prevails, and it must excite very pleasing reflections, that the Catholic clergyman, the Rev. Daniel M’Donnell, does every thing in his power to promote a good understanding Religion.

Religion. among the inhabitants of the parish. Since the rebellion of 1798, a company of yeomanry attached to the Ballycastle corps, raised by Mr. Dobbs, was composed of both Protestants and Catholics.

Customs. Whenever a person dies in a townland, no work is done till the body is interred, which was of little consequence when there was but one or two families resident, and little work to do; now, when they are more numerous, it becomes, at particular seasons, rather inconvenient. The people are not all as strict in keeping the holydays as formerly; in general, their observance is a nuisance, as the day is spent in the public-house, and little is done the next day. When two or three holydays happen in a week, it is a fine open for a week's idleness. The young people have not so much money as formerly, and spirits are dearer, which makes them less anxious for holydays. In these parishes, scarcely any private spirits are made, either now or at any time, though before the roads were opened the smuggling of tobacco was carried on to a great extent,

VII. *The Education and Employment of Children, &c.*

Education. The inhabitants were and are, in general, inclined to have their children instructed in reading, writing, arithmetic and navigation. The lands being cheap till these few years past, very little labour was necessary; industry is now more prevalent; yet young able fellows may still be seen knitting stockings, at the back of a ditch or the gable of a house. The fault lies in a great measure with their parents, who, rather than let them go abroad, will divide their lands among them, by which means a few generations have

reduced large farms of, perhaps, a hundred acres, to **Education.** a number of small ones, containing four or five acres each, or even less. In Scotland, none but the eldest son is allowed to hold the farm, all the younger children must either learn a trade or go abroad.

The usual charge for tuition has been 2s. 6d. for **Rates of Tuition.** spelling ; 5s. for reading ; and 7s. 6d. for writing and accounts, per quarter. Except at the extremity of the parish, and next to the parish of Laid, most of the children will attend Mr. Turnly's school-house. In Laid there are several school-masters, who support themselves by teaching the children, and a small subscription has been yearly made to assist those who could not pay. About thirty are now instructed gratis. A branch of the Hibernian Bible Society **Bible Society.** has been established here. It meets alternately at Glenarm and Cushendall.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

There being neither church nor glebe-house in Ardclinis parish, the few occasional duties have been generally attended to by the officiating clergyman of Laid. The Rev. David Dunkin, rector of Ardclinis, does not reside ; he receives the tythes, as treasurer of the diocese of Connor. There is neither chapel nor meeting-house in Ardclinis, though the inhabitants are mostly Catholics : the chapel in Laid is but a small building, by no means large enough for the congregation, two-thirds of which cannot get into the house, and are obliged to kneel on the outside ; in Ardclinis, the Rev. Mr. M'Donnell does duty in the open air.

Church. The church of Laid stands on the old direct centre road from Cushendall to Ballycastle. It was built in the year 1800 by the parish, at their own expense and by subscription; it can contain about 200 people, and is generally well attended. At that time the Board of First Fruits would give no money unless the church had been 20 years in ruin; it may however be hoped they will be able to assist in building on more eligible ground, and allow an appropriation of this small building for the use of a parish school-house.

Glebe. There are but four acres of glebe in Laid, and that is situated so as to afford no site for a glebe-house.

Tythes. The tytheable articles consist of corn, but the usual custom in the parish of Ardclinis is, to set the tythe for a given sum, which is then applotted upon the parish, and each denomination gives a note or bond for the annual payment. The tythes of Laid have been generally set at incumbency bargains, each townland giving a joint promissory note for their proportion. The tythe is laid on corn only; formerly it was levied on minor articles, as fish caught on the shore by nets, &c.; the last bargain was for £180 per annum.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

Potatoes. Where the land answers, potatoes are set with the plough, opening the drills, dropping the seed, laying the manure over or under, and then covering them.

Stocks of Cattle. Stocks of cattle consist of young cattle grazed in the mountain, ponies, and sheep of the small Highland breed, and sometimes a cross breed.—

Implements. Ploughs, harrows, and spades, are the chief instruments; in hard stony grounds, and on the sides of

the hill, where the plough cannot work, a kind of a spade called a kib is used, very thick and strong, but only one-third of the usual breadth of that instrument.

The usual produce of this parish consists of potatoes, barley, potatoe-oats, a little wheat, beans, and pease; these three latter are rather an improvement upon agriculture. The small mutton of the country is reckoned very fine; the quarter seldom exceeds 13lbs. The beef is also small, weighing from 27 to 28 score lbs. per carcase. The general size of horses (or rather ponies) is small, they do not exceed in value £16 each, and some are as low as £5, except the few kept by gentlemen.

The May rents are paid at August, by the produce of butter; the November in February, by the sale of pork. Of this last the price varies; it has sold at £4 per cwt. and this year it does not promise £1 10s.—The occasional taxes and expenses of families are paid from spinning, which does not exceed 12 hanks to the pound, most generally eight; the wages are from 8d. to 10d. per day; men's wages from 13d. to 18d. On particular occasions they get 1s. 8d. a day, and women 1s. 1d.

The lands on each side of the roads are extremely good, and set from 30 to 50 shillings an acre. There are eight fairs at Cushendall in the year, viz. February 14th, March 17th, May 14th, June 29th, August 14th, September 29th, November 14th, December 23d. Cushendall, though a weekly market, cannot support one, the fairs answering at present every purpose.

Proprietors The chief proprietors of the parish of Ardclinis are Mr. Gibbon of Carnalough; James White, Esq. of Limnalary; Francis Turnly, Esq. of Drumnasole; John Higginson, Esq. of Nappan; Lady Antrim; Lord Mark Kerr, in right of the Antrim family, of Ardclinis; the Rev. Richard Dobbs, Rev. John Dobbs, and Conway Dobbs, Esq. of Glenariff.—

Proprietors The principal proprietors of the parish of Laid are Lord Mark Kerr, Alexander M'Aulay, Esq. James Craig, Esq. Francis Turnly, Esq. Hugh Stewart M'Aulay Boyd, Esq. Samuel Boyd, Esq. Rev. Richard Dobbs, Nicholas Cromelin, Esq. Edmund M'Neile, Esq. and the Rev. John Smyth.

Rents: The rents in Laid rate from 20*s.* to 48*s.* and the
Prices. ground is in general very good. The prices of cows and horses are much the same as at Ardclinis. As to the price of provisions, it varies very much, and these few years past has been high; twenty years ago, one penny for eight and ten eggs was a common price, now it only brings four, sometimes less; meal 15*s.* per cwt. or 1*s.* 8*d.* per peck of four stone; potatoes 2½*d.* to 5*d.* per stone; beef has sold this year, November, 1816, at 25*s.* per hundred of 120 lb. Not reckoning old leases, rents run from 15*s.* to £3 the acre, average price 28*s.* including pasture and arable. Hay seldom less than 2*s.* 2*d.* per cwt. sometimes 6*s.* owing to bad winters and the number of young cattle grazed in the mountains, which must be fed from the produce of the lowlands. Sheep are very plenty in these mountains.

X. Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.

Kelp is burned along the shore, by making oblong Kelp pits of stone, in which the sea rack is packed when dry ; it melts like lead, and forms a hard cake. Some of it goes to Coleraine, some to Larne, some is shipped for Liverpool, where, perhaps, most of it finds its ultimate destination.

In the parish of Ardclinis there is a corn mill, a Mills, flax mill, a tuck mill at Carnalough, and a small corn mill on Mr. Dobb's farm at Bay Lodge. In the parish of Laid, on the rivulet passing through Glen Balligremán, are several small mills for flax and corn. The river from Glenanne has also two mills on it, one for flax, the other for corn.

There are a few small vessels from 14 to 20 tons Fisheries, burden, that can come into the Acre river at high water, and about 16 that belong to Cushendun river, as passage boats or to carry coals, &c. A number of small boats around the bay fish for herrings, both by draft nets on the beach, and by drifts which go into the channel in deep water ; the fish caught by the latter are far superior in size and quality. From 12 to 16 boats, with 9 hands each, may be seen drawing at the same time along the beach about dusk, besides which, hundreds of men, women, and children, called carpers, are ready to catch the fish that break from the net on it's drawing on shore,

XI. Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.

After passing over the bridge on the Acre river in- Caves, to Laid, and turning to the right towards the sea, you

- Caves.** come to some caves, one of which is occupied by a smith, who keeps a forge in it; another by a resident family; boats are drawn up in the others. They are not large, and seem to have been formed by a cemented mixture of clay and small stones run together, the softer parts having mouldered away by the sea and time. There are other curious caves, particularly at Cushendun, with well turned arches of considerable extent. The great curiosity is the mode of their formation, and its probable cause; they have the appearance of well cemented stones and gravel of various kinds and dimensions; at one part is a perpendicular wall, or appearance of the side of a wall, about 200 feet high; when you examine the stones you find them all cracked in many parts, and easy to divide in pieces; this has been produced, as some suppose, by fire. In some of these caves wild pigeons are numerous. Some years ago, a large whale, nearly sixty feet long, was driven on shore alive, on the Ardclinis side of Red Bay; some of the bones are at Glenarm Castle.
- Whale.**

Proprietors The proprietors of lands in these parishes are gentlemen who have had a liberal education, and are well descended. Mr. M'Aulay is lineally come from the family of Arden Caple, in Scotland; his father before he died went one circuit as Judge, when he acted as sheriff. His brother, Hugh M'Aulay Boyd, as before mentioned, was, according to proofs produced by Laurence Dundas Campbell, the author of Junius; he died in a high official situation in India. All the lands in these parishes are held under the Antrim family. Some of these lands are held under what is called the Hollow Blade Company, so named

from a company in London, makers of sword-blades, who obtained the grant; it is not granted in perpetuity to the present proprietors, but they have a lease of some hundred years.

List of the Incumbents of Ardclinis and Laid, extracted from the First Fruits' records.

Ardclinis valet 10*l.* per an. Thesaurarius pd. Rec-
tor. Willmus. Wallace Vicarius, David Dewar Curat. Incum
bents.

Layde, Robtus. Echlyn, Rector. valet 60*l.* per ann.
David Roe Curatus.

Georgius Callender institut. fuit 30^o Octob. 1635,
ad Vicar. de Ardclinis in Com. Antr. et Dioces,
Connor. non sol.

Edward. Games collatus fuit 22^o Marcii, 1660, ad
Rector. de Layd.

Daniel Mc. Neale collat. erat ultimo die Januarii,
1664, ad Rector. de Layde in Dioc. predict. 10*l.* ster.

Daniel Mc. Neale institut. fuit 9^o die mensis De-
cembr. Anno Dni. 1668, ad Rector. de Laide 10*l.* &
Vicar. de Ramoan Culfeightron 40*s.* & Armoy.

Georgius Lovell in artib. magr. collat. fuit 16^o die
Maii, 1681, ad & in Rectoria. de Laid, Dioc. Conno-
ren. & Com. Antrim, 10*l.*

Petrus Ward cler. collat. fuit 26^o Mar. 1707, ad
Rect. de Laid, Dioc. Connor. & Com. Antrim, 10*l.*

Samuel Elwood cler. institut. ad Rector. de Layd
in Dioces. Connor. & Comit. Antrim. per resignatio-
nem Petri Ward S.T.D. nup. Rect. ejusd. vacant.

Johannes Grace A.M. institut. admiss. & collat.
fuit nostro pleno jure 17^o die Mar. An. Dom. 1737,
ad Rector. de Layd in Dioces. Connor.

Arthur Sampson R. of Layd, 16^o July, 1766, Com.
Antrim.

Incum-
bents.

Thomas Higgins instituted 29 July, 1781, R. of Layde, Antrim, 10*l*.

Wm. Ravenscroft collated 4 Aug. 1789, R. of Layd, 10*l*.

Wm. Lindsay admitted, instituted, and collated, 18 May, 1797, R. of Layde, Antrim, 10*l*.

XII. *Suggestions for Improvement, and Means for meliorating the Condition of the People.*

Except a more general introduction of weaving, which appears to be encreasing, and will do so, if the linen trade advances, any other manufactory would not answer so well; the opening of roads to the principal market towns of Ballymena, Ballymoney, &c. will be of great service; the residence of the proprietors, if possible, would also be a great assistance, as nearly the whole of the pork and butter goes to non-resident landlords. It is calculated that, on an average, these parishes have more meal and potatoes than is sufficient for their own consumption, and in this scarce year, 1817, it will not be necessary to import provisions.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

GENERAL SURVEY OF THE PARISH OF ARDCLINIS, IN THE DIOCESE OF CONNOR, AND COUNTY OF ANTRIM, BY THE REV. R. S. DOBBS, MADE ON THE INQUIRY INTO THE STATE OF CROPS IN 1816.

In the Barony of Lower Glenarm.				
Greatest length 4 miles.		Greatest breadth 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles.		
Boundaries.	North ...By the Parish of Laid.			
	East.....By the Sea.			
	West.....By the Parish of Tickmacreevan, or Glenarm.			
	South... By the Parish of Dunaghy and Skerry.			
Number of Townlands.....31.				
QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF THE LAND.				
Quality of Soil.	No. of Acres.	Produce of which,		Remarks.
			Acres.	
Arable and Pasture	2081	Potatoes	200	The Value of the Lands is the same as in the Parish of Laid, and may be propor. tioned accordingly.
Green Pasture	3183	Oats.....	500	
Mountain and Bog	4461	Barley	7	
		Wheat	3	
Total	9725	Flax.....	30	
		Peas	4	

No. 2.

GENERAL SURVEY OF THE PARISH OF LAID, MADE ON THE INQUIRY ABOVE-MENTIONED.

In the Barony of Lower Glenarm.	
Greatest length 6 miles.	Greatest breadth 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles.
Boundaries.	North....By the Parish of Culfeightrin.
	East.....By the Irish Channel.
	West.....By the Parish of Dnnaghy.
	South....By the Parish of Ardclinis.
Number of Townlands or other divisions...114.	

No. 2, CONTINUED.

QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF THE LAND, &c.

1816.	No. of Acres.	Probable quantity and value of produce per acre.			Remarks.
			£	s.	d.
Wheat	5	At 16l. per acre	80	0	0
Barley	5	At 15l. per acre	75	0	0
Oats	1200	At 4½ bolls, at 30s. per boll	8100	0	0
Potatoes ..	550	At 400 pecks, at 1s. per peck	11,000	0	0
Flax	75	At 1120lb. at 7d. per lb.	2400	0	0
Meadow & Pasture ..	3875	.....	.....	.....	.....
Peas and Vetches ..	4	At 6l. per acre	24	0	0
Total incultivation ..	5714				
Mountain Pasture ..	3531				
Bog and unprofitable	10,595				
Total in the parish ..	19,840				
	Number.	Average Weight.	Probable Value.		
			£	s.	d.
Pigs	682	103cwt. at 30s.	1773	0	0
Firkins of Butter	1819	63lb. at 50s. p. fir.	4549	0	0
			£6322	0	0
			£	s.	d.
Average value per acre	5714	At 27s. per acre	7713	0	0
Tythe .....		.....	200	0	0
Cess and Taxes ..		.....	400	0	0
			8313	0	0
Deduct .....		.....	6322	0	0
Deficiency to be made up by spinning yarn, weaving, and small cattle			1991	0	0

Both crops one third deficient this year, but supposed sufficient for the consumption.

Accounted for in the Butter.

Value of Pork and Butter.

NO. 3, TABLE OF TOWNLANDS IN ARDCLINIS.

No.	Name of Townlands.	Probable Import.	Chief Proprietors.	Acres.	Houses.	Families.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1	Cloghcor,	Fixed stone.	Rev. John Dobbs.	10½	2	2	5	5	10
2	Discart,	{ Not obvious.	Ditto.	3½	2	2	9	8	17
3	Aistena,	{ Cat's rock.	Ditto.	4½	2	2	8	9	17
4	Cregnegal,	Grey plain.	C. E. Dobbs.	5½	5	6	15	14	29
5	Clourcagh,		Ditto.	9½	11	11	25	31	56
6	Greenaguan,	Little summer-house, or sunny prospect.	Ditto.	13½	3	3	10	9	19
7	Tamlagh,	Burying-ground.	Rev. R. Dobbs.	12	15	15	48	48	96
8	Drummacur,	Heron's ridge.	Ditto.	10	8	9	23	19	42
9	Ra,		Ditto.	14	22	24	62	61	123
10	Gallona,	Not obvious.	Lord M. Kerr.	5½	3	3	11	4	15
11	Gal McBride,	M-Bride's stone.	Ditto.	4	3	3	9	12	21
12	Tamlaghmore,	Great burying-ground.	Ditto.	5½	5	5	18	9	27
13	Drumdravid,	Bridge head.	Ditto.	4	2	2	4	6	10
14	Cusheneilt,	Fawn's foot.	Ditto.	7½	5	5	12	7	19
15	Ardclinis,	Not obvious.	Ditto.	5½	2	2	10	3	13
16	Fallowvee,	Naked land, or yellow fallow.	Ditto.	5½	4	4	13	11	24
17	Galboly,	Stone cow-house.	Lady Antrim.	15½	11	11	21	28	49
18	Dannall,	{ Not obvious.	Ditto.	11½	6	6	16	25	41
19	Nappen,	{ Little lough.	John Higginson.	21½	7	8	19	27	46
20	Loughan,	{ Not obvious.	Ditto.	10	6	7	15	17	32
21	Drumnasole,	Wild mountainous place.	F. Turnly, Esq.	38	13	14	34	34	68
22	Carra'ree,	Cross ridge.	Rev. D. Kelly.	22	17	18	46	43	89
23	Drumnacross,	Mare's leap.	Ditto.	10½	8	9	23	16	39
24	Limnaly,		J. White, Esq. & W.G. Lecky.	5½	20	20	61	64	125
The bays, including									
25	Aghamr,	Not obvious.	{ Ditto.	39½	18	19	58	56	114
26	Ariga,	Little rock.							
27	Giffin,	Little park.							
28	Gortnagoree,	Goat's field.	} Lady Antrim & Mrs. Gibbons.	24½	32	39	70	94	164
29	Curnalough,	Lough carn, or heap.							
Total				366½	232	249	647	660	1307

TABLE OF TOWNLANDS IN LAID, (NORTH SIDE,) CONTINUED.

No.	Name of Townlands.	Probable Derivation, and English Name or Import.	Chief Proprietors.	Acres.	Houses.	Families.	Males.	Females.	Total.
29	Ballure,	Earth rampart.	Rev. John Smith.	5	5	5	12	17	29
30	Innispoliar,	Pit island.	Ditto.	2½	2	2	4	7	11
31	Killavalla,	Town wood.	Ditto.	2½	2	2	5	7	12
32	Ardy Coan,	Pleasant hill.	Ditto.	6	5	5	16	20	36
33	Agolaugh,	Ford or field of sorrow and lamentation.	Rev. R. Dobbs.	12	6	6	15	22	37
34	Nocknacarry,	Wrestler's hill.	James Craig, Esq.	12	6	6	16	18	32
35	Clonimore,	Great plain.	Ditto.	4½	3	3	10	14	24
36	Rananaugh,	A ferny place.	Ditto.	5½	5	5	15	15	30
37	Strade,	Not ascertained.	Ditto.	4½	6	6	16	17	33
38	Drimnasmeare,	Blackberry ridge.	Ditto.	4½	3	3	7	8	15
39	Drimone,	Turf, or bog ridge.	Francis Turnly, Esq.	6½	4	3	8	13	21
40	Drimnacur,	Heron ridge.	James Craig, Esq.	5	4	4	10	12	22
41	Falnaglass,	Hedge inclosure.	Alexander M'Aulay, Esq.	6	5	5	14	11	25
42	Ballybrack,	Shop town.	Ditto.	11	6	6	14	25	39
43	Tavnyborue,	Not ascertained.	Ditto.	2½	2	2	7	7	14
44	Tavnaughbrack,	Speckled block.	Ditto.	2½	3	3	6	9	15
45	Cloughy,	Stony.	Ditto.	3	4	4	11	10	21
46	Tavnaucham,	Crooked block.	Ditto.	6	5	5	10	14	24
47	Cloughglass,	Green stone.	Francis Turnly, Esq.	2½	2	2	7	4	11
48	Cosiskbb,	Hand and foot.	Ditto.	3½	3	3	8	9	17
49	Glennville,	Michael's glenn.	Alexander M'Aulay, Esq.	7½	3	3	14	16	30
50	Ballywooly,	Town of ox-stalls.	Ditto.	7½	6	6	18	21	39
51	Glebe,	Meaning obvious.	Rev. Mr. Lindsay.	1	1	1	1	4	5
52	Layde,	{ Not ascertained.	Edward McNeill, Esq.	8	10	10	22	26	48
53	Conforfey,	Hound field.	Ditto.	7½	5	5	13	14	27
54	Aughecugh,	{	Hugh S. Boyd, Esq.	41	20	20	69	74	143
55	Mongvart,	{	Mr. Michael Black.	8½	3	3	14	10	24
56	Fachill,	{	Francis Turnly, Esq.	9	5	5	15	12	27
57	Legg,	{	Ditto.	2	2	2	6	4	10
58	Cushendall,	{	Ditto.	17	54	56	130	141	271
Total				350	314	315	865	987	1852

No. 6, TABLE OF TOWNLANDS IN LAID, (SOUTH SIDE.)

No.	Name of Townlands.	Probable Import.	Chief Proprietors.	Acres.	Houses.	Families.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1	Parkmore,	Great park.	James Craig, Esq.	3	4	5	7	7	14
2	Legdrenagh,	Blackthorn place.	Lord M. Kerr.	1	5	5	8	11	10
3	Tobervine,	Gentle spring.	James Craig, Esq.	3	4	4	8	12	20
4	Barachilly,	Cockscumb, cock's summit.	Ditto.	5½	8	8	17	25	42
5	Duroy,	Not ascertained.	Ditto.	5½	6	6	13	16	29
6	Gortin,	Little garden.	Lord M. Kerr.	5	5	5	16	15	31
7	Fallinlea,	Grey mantle.	Ditto.	6	3	3	6	5	11
8	Glassmullen,	Mullen's keep, or inclosure.	Ditto.	6½	5	5	14	16	30
9	Ballinlig,	Not ascertained.	Ditto.	7	2	2	8	5	13
10	Killmore,	Great church.	Ditto.	5	4	4	9	6	15
11	Ballynamella,	Town of treachery or deceit.	Ditto.	9	8	6	9	17	26
12	Ballyburiman,	Huriman's town.	Mrs. Gibbons.	5½	4	4	8	10	18
13	Dunegall,	English fortress.	Ditto.	5½	8	9	16	21	37
14	Gartmacmellan,	McMellan's corn-field.	Ditto.	4½	3	3	9	7	16
15	Foriff,	Not ascertained.	Ditto.	12½	7	7	22	24	46
16	Boyanagh,	Meaning obvious.	Ditto.	5½	7	7	18	19	37
17	Warren,	Meaning obvious.	Rev. R. Dobbs.	2	15	14	32	39	71
18	Redbay,	Ringcarn, or heap.	Hugh S. Boyd, Esq.	11	7	8	20	21	41
19	Carnanane,	Not ascertained.	Ditto.	3½	3	3	10	10	20
20	Allenabough,	Meaning obvious.	Ditto.	3½	0	0	0	0	0
21	Waterford,	Dog-town.	Ditto.	3	1	1	3	2	5
22	Ballymado,	Ditched garden.	Ditto.	14	14	36	40	76	116
23	Gartacles,	Meaning obvious.	Samuel Boyd, Esq.	9½	4	4	14	11	25
24	Mount Edwards,	Meaning obvious.	Ditto.	4	6	6	31	29	60
25	South Nockans,	Not ascertained.	Lord M. Kerr.	15	7	10	20	19	39
26	North Nockans,	Hill of the plain.	Ditto.	6½	3	3	9	14	23
27	Nockmoy,	Carn, or heap of the field.	Hugh S. Boyd, Esq.	6½	6	6	12	10	22
28	Carnahagh,	Not ascertained.	Ditto.	7½	4	4	9	12	21
29	Killoughbag,	Hillock.	Alexander McAnlay, Esq.	8	5	6	8	9	17
30	Tully,	Applctown.	Francis Turnly, Esq.	8	4	4	8	7	15
31	Ballynahavill,	Longtown.	Lord M. Kerr.	3½	2	2	10	9	19
32	Ballyfadd,		Rev. R. Dobbs.	5	3	3	6	10	16

NO. 7, TABLE OF TOWNLANDS IN LAID, (SOUTH SIDE,) CONTINUED.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Name of Townlands.</i>	<i>Probable Import.</i>	<i>Chief Proprietors.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Houses.</i>	<i>Families.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
33	Gurtlean,	Broadfield.	Hugh S. Boyd, Esq.	54	4	4	11	13	24
34	Gartatean,	Otterfield.	Ditto.	54	4	4	9	14	23
35	L. Altmore,	L. great eminence or elevation.	Ditto.	24	5	5	9	13	22
36	U. Altmore,	U. great eminence or elevation.	Ditto.	3	4	4	11	16	27
37	Cloughglass,	Green stone.	F. Turnly, Esq.	5	2	2	6	6	12
38	Barard,	Lofly summit.	Alexander M'Aulay, Esq.	8	3	3	10	8	18
39	Hony's farm,	Meaning obvious.	Ditto.	34	1	1	1	2	3
40	Corlen,	Not ascertained.	Ditto.	24	6	6	15	18	33
41	Mullinakeag,	Hill of haws.	Ditto.	4	7	7	14	20	34
42	Tavnahary,	Block of care, or watchfulness.	Ditto.	84	5	5	14	21	35
43	Gartnagross,	Cross garden.	Ditto.	8	4	5	13	9	22
44	L. Tavnahorna,	{ Not ascertained.	Lord M. Kerr.	8	12	14	30	45	75
45	U. Tavnahorna,	{	Ditto.	4	3	1	2	3	5
46	Parkgarve,	Rough park.	Ditto.	4	4	4	2	5	17
47	Killymean,	Middle church.	Ditto.	4	7	7	22	21	43
48	Clough,	Stone.	Ditto.	10	16	16	38	71	109
49	Gartacloughan,	Stony garden.	Ditto.	44	5	5	15	17	32
50	Low clough,	{ Not ascertained.	Ditto.	16	8	8	20	38	58
51	Lubitavish,	{	Alexander M'Aulay, Esq.	9	5	5	24	23	47
52	Glenane,	Ring glenn.	Lord M. Kerr.	8	11	9	25	31	56
53	Esbery,	Ery's catract.	Ditto.	4	1	1	3	2	5
54	Fallmacrilly,	Not ascertained.	Alexander M'Aulay, Esq.	9	24	24	59	55	114
55	Tavnahoney,	Block of the river.	James Craig, Esq.	34	2	2	8	7	15
56	Turcilly,	Church tower.	Alexander M'Aulay, Esq.	44	6	6	16	19	35
57	Tavnaghdressagh,	Block of treachery.	James Craig, Esq.	5	9	9	24	21	45
				343	325	326	827	956	1783

* These acres are those fixed for as the key of the parish, and average eight small acres, taken from the calculation of those denominations that had been surveyed.

No. III.

PARISH OF

SAINT PETER, ATHLONE,

(Diocese of Elphin and County of Roscommon,)

BY THE REV. ANNESLEY STREAN, INCUMBENT.

I. *The Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

Situation. **T**HE parish of St. Peter, Athlone, is situated in the county of Roscommon, sixty miles from Dublin, on the western side of the river Shannon, containing about one half of the town, a place of considerable note, on account of the siege it sustained, and the passing of the river by king William's army in the year 1691. The part of the town which is in this parish consists of ten streets, with the name of each at its entrance, painted on a board; beside fifteen lanes, of inferior consideration. In the town, and near the bank of the river, stood the ancient abbey dedicated to St. Peter, from which the parish derives its name, founded, as Sir James Ware informs us, in 1214. On part of the site of this abbey the parish church, which was built in the year 1804, now stands:

Town.

Name. scarcely a vestige of the old abbey remains. "This abbey," says Sir James Ware, "is called 'The Mo-

nastery de Innocentia' in the table of procurations of the church of Elphin, and was of the order of Benedictines or Cistercians." In the name of the parish, it thus appears, there is little to be remarked, except so far as it makes a part of the town of Athlone, originally written in correct Celtic orthography *Athluain*, the English of which is the Ford of the Moon, the word *Ath* in that language signifying a ford, (*vadum*,) and *Luain*, the genitive of *Luan*, (*Luna*,) the moon. The town is at the present day called in the common Irish, still spoken by the inhabitants of the town and the neighbouring counties, *BLAHLUIN*, an evidently corrupted contraction of the three words, *Baile*, *Ath*, *Luain*; *Baile* signifying a town, (*villa*,) the letters B and V being commutable in that and other ancient languages; *Ath*, pronounced *Ah*, a ford, (*vadum*;) and *Luain* (*Luna*) the genitive of *LUAN*, (the moon,) in English, the Town of the Ford of the Moon. But it may be observed, that this last appears to be a more modern name in the Irish language, for, before the town was built, it was called simply *ATHLUAIN*, the Ford of the Moon, a name descriptive of the part of the river which was, and is, fordable here; but, when the town was built on this ford, the place then got the name of *BAILE*, *ATH*, *LUAIN*, contracted *BLAHLUIN*, (i. e. the Town of the Ford of the Moon, or Moonford Town,) which it invariably retains in common Irish conversation. This town is also known among some of the oldest inhabitants of the adjoining country, by the name of *BAILE 'TUS NA SEACHT MEINA*, corruptedly *Balladusnashaghtina*, in English, the Town of the beginning of the Week; *Baile* (*villa*) signifying a town, *tus* (*initium*) the beginning, *na* (*de*) of, *seacht* (*septem*) seven, and *maine* (*mane*) morning, the two

last words forming the word (septimana) a week, still maintaining the same ultimate object of reference to the moon, Monday (originally written Moonday) being the first day of the week, as Sunday, a day of rest, is a *dies non*, so that Monday is the day beginning their weekly labour. From these circumstances, it seems probable (though the local histories of those early dates are lost) that this place has been sacred to the moon, by dedication to that planet, in the ages before Christianity, and that pagan worship has been paid to that deity in a place where the name is so evidently traced, and from which there can be no doubt that the town derived its name; and were any additional reasons for such inference necessary, it might, in some degree, be confirmed by the circumstance of several lunettes, or crescents of gold, being found in a bog not far distant from the town, which, with some other articles of the same metal, were sold, as I have been informed, within these few years to a jeweller in Dublin for the sum of 858*l.* and for want of a purchaser of antiquarian taste, melted down for more common uses.*

Boundaries There are no lakes in this parish, which is bounded on the east and north by the river Shannon, separat-

* The place, thus denominated from the deity there worshipped, serves to confirm the etymology of many places in Ireland which are called Clogher, from the Celtic words *cloch* or *clogh*, a stone, and *or*, gold, a large spherical stone having been painted a yellowish or golden colour, to represent the sun, or Baal, which was worshipped in those places so named, (and the first day of May dedicated to him, which is thence called Lavalteena, that is, the day of Baal's fire,) among which is the see of Clogher, a place of pre-eminence among such sacred dedications of this denomination, and perhaps for that reason carrying its name into the Christian hierarchy, from its celebrity in the Gentile worship.

ing it from the parish of St. Mary in the diocese of Boundaries Meath, in which is situated the eastern part of the town of Athlone; on the south, by the parish of Drum, in the diocese of Tuam; and on the west, by the parish of Kiltoom, in the diocese of Elphin.—The river just named produces pike, trout, bream, a few salmon in the season, perch in abundance, and eels, with the latter of which the town and neighbourhood are not only supplied, but large quantities are constantly sent to the metropolis.

Beside the church, which occupies the site of St. Ruins. Peter's Abbey, and a large Roman Catholic chapel, there are two ecclesiastical ruins, one at Cloonakilla, which seems to have been no more than a small chapel of little note; and another at Cloonowen, about three miles below the town of Athlone, on the banks of the Shannon; this is a more considerable ruin, with a cemetery of some extent, the history of which has not been well ascertained.

There is, in that part of the town which is in this Sessions parish, a sessions-house, where the quarter sessions House. are periodically held.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

The mineralogy of this parish presents nothing to attract attention, except that it abounds with iron ore in every townland, producing innumerable cha- Chalybeate lybeate springs of various degrees of strength, some, Springs. little, if any thing, inferior to other chalybeate waters of Ireland which are held in high estimation, as ex-

perience as well as analyzation within the writer's own knowledge has proved.*

Fossils. With respect to fossils, there are none hitherto discovered, except such shells of the cockle, muscle, or periwinkle kind, as are usually found on breaking lime stones, incorporated with the mass, retaining no more of the original shell than the shape, the whole of the stones of which they make a part being homogeneous throughout. The whole of this and the neighbouring parishes abound with this sort of stone, there being hardly a stone of any other description to be found either on the surface or under it. **Marl.** Marl also is to be found in many places in great abundance, on and near the surface, yet no instance is known of its being made use of as a manure.

Soil. The soil in the low grounds is mostly argillaceous, in many places containing clay fit for pottery and bricks, and very productive both in tillage and grazing. Moory bottoms on the verges of bogs are not without a mixture of calcareous gravel.

Bog Timber. In the bogs of the western part of the parish there is great plenty of timber, viz. deal, oak, and yew, to be found, but it lies so deep, being fifteen or twenty feet or more under the surface, that it is considered too expensive to be raised. Some pieces of deer's horns have been found in the bogs on the eastern side, and, as is usual in most bogs of Ireland, nuts, leaves, &c. but no other substance worthy of notice.

**Deer's
Horns.**

* Dr. Rutty's Mineral Waters, page 70, and analyzed by A. S. M. D. anno 1813.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

There are no modern public or private buildings in the country part of this parish. In the town there Town. have been built many new houses of late years, some in the old streets, and more in a situation which before was a receptacle for dung and other nuisances. These buildings have formed, at least on one side, a uniform street. The other parts of the town, on both sides of the river, are not built on any general plan, the proprietors of plots in the town, which are numerous, having let them to tenants who have erected buildings of various descriptions, each to suit his own private convenience, equally regardless of the regularity of the streets, proportional height of houses, or uniformity of fronts, and still less of public advantage.

Here there is a large barrack, so close to the town Barracks. that it may be said to make a part of it, (furnishing accommodation for 2000 troops,) to which belong two magazines, an armoury calculated to hold 15,000 stand of arms, and very extensive military stores, forming a general depot from which to supply other garrisons of the kingdom. These are all within the precincts of the barrack, together with an ordnance yard, wherein are constantly employed the several artificers necessary for making all the iron and timber works of gun carriages, and other military engines; and within the same precincts are two hospitals in one building, in a separate yard, capable of containing forty patients each; another, in the same yard with these, capable of accommodating twenty four patients; and one ar-

Barracks. tillery hospital in the barrack yard, calculated to contain forty patients, all attended by staff and regimental surgeons. There is also a barrack formed on the original castle of the town, which was built so long ago as the reign of King John, on a high rising ground, like to, though higher and wider than, a Danish fort, or moat, which seems to have been originally formed for that purpose. Before the magazines in the present barrack were built, the magazine of the garrison was in this castle. It was blown up, by lightning communicating with the powder, on the 27th of October, 1697, by which dreadful accident all the houses of the town, except a few poor cottages without the gates, were shattered and tumbled on and about the inhabitants, and by which, wonderful to relate, 7 of them only were killed and 36 wounded. The following is a copy of the account of that accident, recorded immediately after it occurred, the truth of which, though written in a miserable style, is attested by the sovereign of the day:—

Dreadful storm.

“ A true narrative of the prodigious storm of wind and rain, thunder and lightning, that happened in Athlone between four and five o'clock on Wednesday morning, the 27th of October, 1697, as it was unanimously declared before the sovereign and governor of the said town, upon the examination of the officers and soldiers of the main guard, and guard of Dublin-gate, and likewise by the sentinels that stood on the bastions and works during this horrid scene, together with the dreadful consequences that attended the blowing up of the stores.

“ A terrible blast of high wind suddenly shook and stripped the guard-house, by the terror of which

the guard fled to the door and windows, where, to their great astonishment, they saw the air full of different shapes of fire, ready to fall upon their heads, great quantities of match that were blown up occasioning these different figures of fire, which, being followed by great thunder claps, made a great many of the helpless inhabitants, with reason, believe it was the day of judgment, and therefore for some time minded nothing but their prayers, without using any other means for the preservation of themselves or neighbours; in the mean time the lighted match forcing the thatched houses, burned to the ground the greatest part of what the thunder and blast had left standing, yet little remained of the whole town but a few poor cottages without the gates. It is not to be omitted the wonderful deliverance of Mr. Dodwell, (store-keeper,) and Mr. Roe, (one of the bailiffs of the town,) who, being buried in the ruins at least six hours after this fatal accident, happened now at length to be dug out, with their wives dead in their arms. Mr. Dodwell is in a fair way of recovery, and Mr. Roe perfectly well. God's great care of the inhabitants was very wonderful in this disaster, there being but thirty-six wounded and seven killed in the whole town. There are above a hundred families that have been sufferers in that great misfortune, and by the most moderate computation their losses amount to five thousand pounds, which, considering they lately suffered by two sieges, must undoubtedly reduce them to great extremities, unless speedily relieved by the generous charity of well-disposed people. I do affirm, upon the strictest inquiry I could make, I find this to be a true account, and therefore desire that no other may be written.

“GUSTAVUS HAMILTON,”

Dreadful
storm,

“ First a dreadful shower of rain, as if a whole cloud had fallen in the street, which, being forced by a violent wind, made a prodigious noise as it fell; thirdly, after the rain, a dreadful and terrible clap of thunder; fourthly ensued a thick darkness, that continued for the space of half a quarter of an hour; fifthly broke out continued lightning without ceasing, so that heaven and earth seemed to be united by the flame, which was more terrible to the guards than all that happened before, and ended with three claps of thunder in a fiery cloud from the north, and running violently through the air, stopped just above the castle, and at the last of the three claps, in the twinkling of an eye, fell a wonderful great body of fire or lightning out of the said cloud (in figure round) directly upon the castle, and in a moment after the magazine took fire and blew up two hundred and sixty barrels of powder, one thousand charged hand-grenades, with eight hundred and ten skains of match which were piled over them, two hundred and twenty barrels of musquet and pistol balls, great quantities of pick-axes, spades, shovels, horse-shoes, and nails, all which blew up into the air, and covered the whole town and neighbouring fields, by the violence of which the town gates were all blown open; the poor inhabitants, who were generally asleep when this tragical scene began, awakened with the different surprising misfortunes that befel them, some finding themselves buried in the ruins of their own houses, others finding their houses in a flame above their heads, others blown from their beds into the streets, others having their brains knocked out with the fall of great stones, and breaking of hand grenades in their houses. These stupifying disasters

within doors made most of these poor amazed mortals fly to the streets for shelter."

There are a few villages in this parish, but so in- Villages.
considerable as not to require any particular remark.
We have no gentlemen's seats, the principal inhabitants living in the town; and, which is much to be regretted in many other parishes as well as this, there is no owner of a fee simple estate resident in it, the whole of which, except a few acres about the town, belongs to Lord Kilmain and the Incorporated Society for promoting Charter Schools. These latter being the trustees of a donation of Richard Lord Ranelagh, have, in discharge of their trust, built two schools, one near Roscommon, containing 40 girls, and one in this parish, containing 40 boys, who, out of the funds of said trust, are fed, clothed, lodged and educated, and, at a proper age, apprenticed to tradesmen, with a fee of ten pounds each. Charter Schools.

In the portion of the town of Athlone which is inn.
in this parish there is but one very bad inn, (in the eastern side there are two not better,) notwithstanding it is so great a thoroughfare, being the link of communication and principal pass between the provinces of Leinster and Connaught, which are here connected by a large bridge consisting of nine arches, Bridge.
but so narrow, being only twelve feet wide, that two carriages cannot pass each other in safety without great care and attention. It has long been in contemplation to apply to Parliament for aid to widen it; and for that purpose there is a handsome plan prepared, and an estimate made, which will require nine thousand pounds to execute the proposed

work and purchase the buildings that are to be removed from both ends of it; and, to say nothing of the ornament it would be in such a town to have a bridge, on such a plan as that which is prepared, over so fine a river as the Shannon is here, it would be the only means of preventing the obstructions and consequent confusion which frequently occur from the contrary currents of men, carriages, and cattle meeting here, especially on the fair and market days, as well of the town itself, as those of the towns situated to the west; particularly those of Ballinasloe, at which time it is often so obstructed for hours, on the several days while the fair lasts, as to require both time and patience to extricate the confused mass of men, women, horses, bullocks, sheep, &c. &c. entangled among carriages of various kinds, and render the passage free. Nearly on the centre of this bridge there stands a monument, which, though it is not in this parish, yet being within ten feet of it, deserves to be noticed; it is of cut stone, erected in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, whose arms occupy a part of it. Under the compartments is the following legend in elevated letters, principally capitals, two or three of which are joined together, and make parts of each other:—

“ This Bridge of Athlone from the maine earth
 “ under the water was erected and made the ninth year
 “ of the raign of our most dere Sovereign Ladie Eliza-
 “ beth by the grace of God Quene of England France
 “ and Ireland Defender of the Faith &c. by the device
 “ and order of Sir Henry Sidney knight of the most
 “ nobil order the 2do. daie of Julie then being
 “ of the age 38 yere, this President of the Counsil
 “ and Walis and Marchis of the same and Deputie

“ General of this hir Majistis Realm Irland, fineshed
 “ in less than one year bi the good Industrie and di-
 “ ligins of Peter Lewis. Clerk Chanter Cathedral
 “ Church of Christs Church in Dublin and Steward
 “ to the said Deputie, in which yeare was begone and
 “ fineshed the faire newe worke in the Casthel of
 “ Dublin, besids many other notable workis done in
 “ sondri other placis in this Realm, also the arch rebel
 “ Shane O’Neyl overthrown, his head set on the gate
 “ of the said Castel, Coyns and Livry aboleshed and
 “ the whole Realm brought in to such obedience to
 “ hir Majistie as the like tranquillitie peace and
 “ w in the memory of many
 “ hath no bene sene.”

Petro
clerico
hræ
hujus
side

Figure
of
Rev. Peter Lewys
stands here.

Lewys
domus
dispensat
opis P*

In the above compartment of the monument is the figure of the person therein mentioned in his gown ; in his right hand there is, what is said and might be supposed to be, a pistol, if the part which represents the barrel were not twisted like a rope. On this pistol there is the figure of a rat, in the attitude of biting the thumb which holds the pistol. The traditional account of the subject of the compartment is, that the above-mentioned Rev. Peter Lewys was an English monk who conformed to the Protestant reli-

* This inscription may, perhaps, be read thus:—"Petro Lewys clerico, domus nostræ dispensatori hujus operis Preside."—ED.

gion, and, on coming to Ireland, was appointed Chanter of Christ-church. Being a man of superior abilities, when the bridge of Athlone was building, he was sent by Sir Henry Sidney, Deputy of Ireland, to superintend this and other works then carrying on there. Here, and wherever he went, a rat followed and haunted him by day and by night; however anxious to rid himself from so troublesome an attendant, he could neither escape from nor kill it; where he travelled it travelled, and where he slept it slept, continuing its persecution to the last of his days. One day, having preached in the church of St. Mary's, Athlone, after he had descended from the pulpit, all the congregation, except the clerk, having withdrawn, this rat made its appearance, when Mr. Lewys presented a pistol, with which he was always prepared, to shoot it; but, such was the sagacity and quickness of this unaccountable animal that it avoided the shot by leaping on the pistol and biting the thumb which held it, thereby inflicting a wound which, from the laceration of the nerve, being succeeded by a locked jaw, not long after terminated in his death.

However ridiculous this tradition, as the relation of it may possibly excite inquiry, and thereby lead to the true history of the subject, it is given as received from the oldest inhabitants of the place, among whom there are some who do not refuse it credit—*Credat Judæus*.

In the compartment No. 5 is the following, in sunk letters:—

In the reign of our Sovereign Lord King George 2. 1730, this

part of the Bridge being 4 archis in ye Center was undertaken and built by

Benjamin Price

at the expence of ye Right Honble. Lady Katharine Jones and the Corporation of Athlone, the Honble. Coll. St. George,

Sovereign.

The work was compleated ye year following, Willm. Handcock, Esqre. Sovein. Gustavus Handcock, Esqre. Supervize.

Mr. John Plumer and Mr. Edwin Thomas, Overseers.

Under the compartment No. 3, containing the Queen's arms, is,

Give to Cesar that which is Cesar's, and to God that which is God's.*

In compartment No. 7 is,

Roberts Dampont, Overseer of Thys Workys.

There are four bridges in the parish of St. Peter, Bridges. three of which are over a canal which is cut for the purpose of forming an uninterrupted navigation on the Shannon northward of Athlone, where the ford, on which the bridge already mentioned is built, had interrupted any communication farther up that river. This canal, which is somewhat more than a mile long, is close to the end of the town, and, by means of a curve of the river in this place, to the eastward, which joins it to the canal above and below the town, forms an island, in which that part of the town which is in the parish of St. Peter is situated, together with about sixty acres of land. There is another bridge over a small river at a place called Beolnamulla,

* This seems to have a reference to the toll (called pontage) paid for cattle passing the bridge.

Bridges. which crosses the parish, nearly about the middle, from north to south, and is of no note, except that its stream turns the work of two mills. Beside these there are two others, that of Cranagh, which unites the parish of St. Peter with the parish of Drum on the road to Ballinasloe and Galway, and that which joins it to the parish of St. Mary above described, situated in the town of Athlone.

Roads. There are three principal roads through this parish; one to Galway through Ballinasloe, the latter distant twelve, the former forty-four miles from Athlone; another to Tuam, thirty four miles; and a third to Roscommon, fourteen miles distant.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

Fortifications. The whole town is chiefly built of strong stone houses, and, as a place of importance in a military point of view, had been strongly fortified, at an early period, on both sides of the river, with bulwarks and walls lined with ramparts of stone and earth, rendered inaccessible on the outside, by means of a deep ditch, and flankers with mounted guns; all of which had been suffered to fall into decay; but within a few years last past, the original castle or citadel has been repaired in a more modern style of fortification, and the whole town strengthened by several batteries of field works, all manned and mounted with many guns of various calibres, beside those on the citadel, which, as a *tete du pont*, completely commands the bridge and the river.

This town has been rendered famous by the gallant and successful resistance it made during the

first siege it stood in 1690, as well as by its second Siege. siege and ultimate capture in 1691.

To the skill and fidelity of Colonel Richard Grace, an experienced officer, who had served King James while Duke of York for many years in quality of chamberlain, was confided the defence of this important post. After the defeat of that unfortunate monarch at the battle of the Boyne on the 1st of July, 1690, his successful competitor, in order to reap the fruits of that glorious victory, divided his army into two parts, with one of which he hastened to invest Limerick in person, and the other,* consisting of four regiments of horse, two of dragoons, and ten of foot, he entrusted to Lieutenant-General James Douglas, one of his ablest officers, on a similar expedition against this place. Douglas left the royal camp at Finglas, near Dublin, on the 9th of July, and “marched,” says Leland,† “as through an enemy’s country, his men plundering, and even murdering, with impunity, in defiance of the royal proclamation, or the formal orders of their general. As he advanced, the Irish peasantry appeared successively in considerable bodies to claim the benefit of King William’s declaration, and were successively ensnared by assurances of protection, and exposed to all the violence of the soldiers. An army abhorred and execrated at length appeared on the 17th of July before Athlone.” To a summons sent by Douglas, Colonel Grace, the Governor, a brave old officer, returned a passionate defiance—“These are my terms,” said he, firing a pistol at the messenger; “these only I will give or receive; and after

* Rapin.

† Book 6, ch. 7.

Siege.

my provisions are consumed, I will defend it till I eat my old boots." His garrison consisted of three regiments of foot, nine troops of dragoons, and two of horse. That part of the town situated on the eastern side of the Shannon, in the county of Westmeath, and which was called the English Town, Grace deemed indefensible; he had therefore set fire to it, and being determined on maintaining the Irish district on the western side, in the county of Roscommon, he destroyed the arches of the bridge of communication erected by Sir Henry Sidney, on which stood a fair monument, and some figures well cut in marble, together with Queen Elizabeth's escutcheon of arms, and an inscription declaring the time and founders of the building. About 200 yards above it he raised some breastworks, and cast up redoubts and other works near the end of the bridge. Besides repairing and strengthening the old fortifications of the town, he mounted two new batteries, and enlarged those of the castle, which stood on an eminence, and commanded the river.

Douglas thus found the enemy stronger and better disposed than he expected. His works, however, were carried on with sufficient vigour, and he commenced his operations by playing on the castle from a battery of six guns, but without any considerable effect. His subsequent attempts were equally ineffectual, and his train of artillery was at length discovered to be insufficient for the enterprise he had undertaken. His most skilful engineers became utterly hopeless of success against an enemy so full of courage and resources; his best gunners were killed, his men grew dispirited from a continuance of futile efforts, and sickly from scanty provisions; and his

horses weak for want of forage. On the other hand, *Siege.* the high reputation of the Governor inspired the fullest confidence—"mentemanuque potens"—his ardour and activity created a general emulation throughout the garrison; their spirits were on fire,* and their efforts redoubled. "It was at this crisis," says Leland, "that Douglas formed the inglorious resolution of retiring. He decamped at midnight, unmolested, and, in his terror of the enemy, marched by devious and painful routes to join the royal army, leaving the Protestant inhabitants, who had enjoyed the benefit of Irish protection till forced to join the besiegers, exposed to the danger of experiencing the utmost severities." In his last dispatch to the Earl of Portland, from the camp before Athlone, General Douglas says, "I have done my best endeavours at Athlone; all my powder is shot off except three barrels, and it has become absolutely necessary to retire to Mullingar. This place (Athlone) I do assure your Lordship, is of the greatest consequence of any in Ireland." And in his letter of the same date to the King, he concludes thus:—"I intend to march to-morrow, lest my stay here without powder for my cannon might occasion misfortune to my train, &c." The French historian, Rapin, who was present as Quarter-Master General of the besieging army, speaks with admiration of the valour displayed on both sides during this siege.

The second siege alluded to, which this place stood, commenced on the 19th of June, 1691, of which Sir John Dalrymple gives the following minute and

* Leland.

Siege.

interesting detail:—“ General Godert de Ginkell
“ having easily got possession of the English side,
“ found,” says he, “ that the Irish, expecting it
“ would be taken, had raised many entrenchments
“ and other works in the town, to which they had
“ retired, from whence they played over upon the
“ station which they had just quitted. The ford be-
“ tween the two towns was breast high, stony, im-
“ passable by above twenty men in rank, and com-
“ manded by the castle adjoining to it, and by the
“ walls of the town next the river. He therefore re-
“ solved to entrench himself in the town which he
“ possessed, and then to make a bridge of pontons
“ below the ford, destroy their works which com-
“ manded the ford, and carry on a wooden work on
“ the stone bridge for the purpose of throwing great
“ planks of wood across the arches broken during
“ the former siege in 1690, by Col. Richard Grace,
“ the Governor. He therefore called a council, con-
“ sisting of the English General Talmash; the French,
“ La Melloniere; the Danish, Tettau; the Dutch,
“ Count Nassau; the German, the young and brave
“ Prince of Hesse Darmstat; but above all, the Duke
“ of Wirtemberg, who was second in command, and
“ impatient of glory, that he might become the first;
“ all thought their own honours and those of the
“ troops they commanded interested in pressing an
“ attempt; and Ginkell, who was afraid of being
“ blamed by the King for avoiding to publish, as he
“ was commanded, unlimited pardon to all who
“ would ask the benefit of it, which might have pre-
“ vented the present mischief, gave to the remon-
“ strances of the other Generals just that degree of

“ opposition which he knew would increase their Siege.
“ keenness in argument, and engage their honour
“ and their pride in the success of an attempt in
“ which they had over-ruled the opinion of their Ge-
“ neral. It was resolved to attempt the passage the
“ next day,” the 30th of June.

In the mean time St. Ruth, upon the destruction of the English works and the consequent retreat of a part of their troops, obliged the gallant Governor Grace to receive three of his worst regiments into the town, in exchange for those who had so gloriously defended it. Bad and inexperienced troops now garrisoned the place, and the misunderstanding between Grace and St. Ruth was heightened into open enmity by the arrogance of the latter. With all these circumstances Ginkell became acquainted, and acquired confidence in the new attempt he was about to make. In the distribution of service, Generals M'Kay and Talmash were given the command of the passage, and in order to avoid giving any alarm to the enemy, “ it was resolved,” says Dalrymple, “ to make the attack at the ordinary hour
“ of relieving the guards; because, at that time
“ there would be a double garrison in the town,
“ without its being attended to. Orders were given
“ for 2000 men to attempt the river; for ladders to
“ be placed against the walls opposite the enemy,
“ from whence an incessant fire might be made upon
“ them; for the rest of the garrison to be ready to
“ follow their companions; and for the army to
“ march into the town whenever the detachment
“ should march to the ford. The soldiers entered
“ the river amidst the huzzas of their own body, to
“ drown their fears, and of their friends behind, to

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“ animate them with hopes. M^cKay went on foot by
“ the side of his men ; Melloniere, Tattau, the Prince
“ of Hesse followed ; Talmash attended every where
“ as a volunteer. The Duke of Wirtemberg having
“ lost a horse, was carried over on the shoulders of
“ his grenadiers. The fire from the ruins of the
“ Irish castle and from the walls next the river was
“ directed upon the ford ; that from the English
“ batteries and ladders upon the ruins ; and that
“ from the Irish entrenchments upon the English
“ batteries ; so that all hurt those who were doing
“ mischief to others, and none received injuries from
“ those whom they annoyed. The detachment ad-
“ vanced across the river, gained the opposite bank,
“ mounted the breaches that had been made in the
“ walls next the river, and divided. One party car-
“ ried the castle, made way for others who were
“ passing the river, and then followed the ramparts
“ of the town, partly to strike terror into the garri-
“ son by getting behind them, and partly to pre-
“ vent the entrance of succours from the Irish
“ camp ; another turned above the ford to the broken
“ arches of the bridge, to assist their friends who
“ were making a passage of planks upon the oppo-
“ site side ; a third wheeled below the ford to secure
“ the point of landing for a bridge of boats which
“ the English were throwing across the river. When
“ the ford and the bridge were laid open, multitudes
“ passed over. The Irish garrison, upon the sight of
“ these things, quitted their entrenchments, leaped
“ over the ramparts wherever they could find them
“ not possessed by the enemy, and the town was
“ evacuated within an hour after the first man had
“ entered the river.” After this brilliant achieve-
ment of the English, St. Ruth decamped instantly to

Aghrim, fifteen miles off, and arrived there the same Siege night.*

* *The London Gazette*, of July 13, 1691, mentions that the body of Col. Richard Grace, the late Governor, who fell during the assault, defending himself to the last with heroic spirit, was found among the slain. Tradition has in this neighbourhood perpetuated the memory of this brave soldier, and entitled him to the possession of a fairer fame than what belongs to most of the other infatuated followers of James's fortunes. During the usurpation of Cromwell, Colonel Grace had been for many years the chamberlain of King James while Duke of York; he was also aide-de-camp to that prince, who for a time held the rank of lieutenant general in the French service, and frequently for long intervals his sole companion. When the Duke, in 1655, took refuge in the Spanish territories, he alone was confided with the secret of his sudden journey, and accompanied him. He also attended him to Breda, when his brother, Charles II. was recalled from thence in 1660, to his dominions. And it appears, from a letter still extant, acknowledging the receipt of a thousand gold pieces from John Grace of Courtstown, in the county of Kilkenny, for the use of the exiled princes, that his royal master, during that period, treated him with the familiarity of an equal, rather than the reserve of a sovereign. Hence arose that warm attachment to his person, and those indefatigable exertions in his service, that so pre-eminently distinguished him on all occasions. The reputation he acquired for military experience during his residence abroad, was, therefore, not higher than what the effects of this zeal merited for him at home; and the example he displayed, at an advanced age, of activity, enthusiasm, and contempt of death, commanded universal admiration. On one occasion having left Athlone, he unexpectedly returned at the expiration of a few days with a reinforcement of 400 men, which he accompanied on foot from a remote part of the county of Kilkenny, distant above seventy miles, in a forced march of two days. At another time he rode to Dublin from Athlone, and returned within 24 hours. His conduct to the Protestant inhabitants of the district under his command, is said to have been so singularly humane and just, as to bring censure upon him for granting to them protections too profusely, and administering to them justice too impartially. Hence it was that, till the arrival of General Douglas, this neighbourhood enjoyed a degree of tranquillity unknown elsewhere. The lifeless bodies of ten of his soldiers executed together beyond the walls of the town, proclaimed his determination to repress military outrages: but though the severity of his discipline was con-

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It only remains for us to remark, that the capture of Athlone, on the 30th of June, was followed by Ginkell's decisive victory at Aghrim, on the 12th of July; and that for these brilliant achievements and important services, this successful general was deservedly rewarded on the 4th of March, 1692, with the titles of Earl of Athlone and Viscount Aghrim; and on the 13th of October, 1693, the favour of his royal master was still further evinced by a grant of all the forfeited estates of William Dongan, the attainted Earl of Limerick, containing 26,480 acres of profitable land.

Public houses.

In this parish there are at present thirty-three houses which retail spirits under license, (last year there were thirty-two,) of which twenty-seven are in the town. A species of trade this, by which, from the unreasonable number of such houses, and keep-

trasted with the prevailing licentiousness of the Irish army, he nevertheless possessed, in an eminent degree, the affections as well as the confidence of his soldiers. Colonel Richard Grace, of Moyally Castle, in the King's County, was descended from a family of the same name long settled at Ballylinch, in the county of Kilkenny, and then represented by Oliver Grace, Chief Remembrancer of the Exchequer, and one of King James's privy council; a man who signalized himself among that king's weak and profligate ministers, not only by resisting, in 1689, the passing the Act of General Attainder, but by unnumbered instances of intrepid, active, and efficient humanity to the Protestant inhabitants of the Queen's County, to whom his house at Shanganagh (now Gracefield) was so general an asylum, and his influence and character so secure a protection, that after the restoration of tranquillity, a requisition to the high sheriff to convene a county meeting was signed by all the Protestant landed proprietors, and their thanks publicly returned to him, as the preserver of their lives, and of the lives of their wives and children. A petition was also presented by them to King William, beseeching his majesty, as much as in him lay, to exempt Mr. Grace from the punishment he was liable to for his attachment to the house of Stuart.

ing them open on Sundays, a practice which is generally too little restrained, the morals of the peasantry are very much corrupted, the day appointed to be kept holy and dedicated to the service of God is spent in every species of vice which the unrestrained abuse of spirituous liquors and idleness are capable of producing; as intoxication excites the baser passions, and urges its unfortunate votaries to the most criminal acts which depraved hearts and ungovernable heads are capable of perpetrating; all, or most of which might be prevented by a vigorous enforcing of the laws enacted for that very purpose.

V. Present & Former State of Population, Food, &c.

The population of this parish at present is 2484 Population males and 2706 females;* but though, from want of any census heretofore taken, the proportion cannot be ascertained, there is no doubt it has increased from the influx of military since the garrison has been augmented by the extensive additional barracks that have been built within a few years, as many families of the troops accompany, and many followers attach themselves to the several regiments which occupy the barracks in succession, many of whom become permanently resident in the town or neighbourhood from a variety of circumstances, such as the death of the fathers, or wives and children being left behind when the fathers are ordered on foreign service. This is a much greater cause of increase than that which arises from those operating in general through other parts of the kingdom.

* See Appendix.

Food.

The general food of the peasantry is potatoes and oatmeal, which, it is certain, are nutritive, since the children are healthy and vigorous, and adults of all ages and both sexes, who seldom use any other species of food, are robust, able-bodied, and adequate to every kind of bodily labour, and corporal exertions.

Longevity.

This further appears, from the general health, as well as the instances of longevity among the inhabitants, there being now living several men and women upwards of eighty years, two of near a hundred years, and one died lately at the age of one hundred and two.

Fuel.

The fuel used in this parish, both in the town and country, is turf, which is now sold in the town for £2 15s. the hundred kishes, each kish containing 16 cubic feet, which is nearly three times the sum it was sold for twenty-five years ago. The cause of this increased price does not arise from the want of bog from which it is cut, there being many hundred acres of it close to the town, but the price of labour and provisions had risen so very much for a few years, that this necessary article has been raised to more than a proportionate value, to which the increased demand for many additional hearths to be supplied with fuel, from the number of military in the barracks and billeted in the town, has contributed in no small degree. This inconvenience could be very much relieved by the government, and extortion prevented in that class of the vicinity called Turf-men, who live on the bogs near the town, where they cut and save turf for the use of the inhabitants, and send it in by boats on the Shannon, and who take every opportunity of practising extortion on the purchasers, and distressing the town; for, if the barracks were supplied with coal (as a few families are) for

their fuel instead of turf, those men who supply the Fuel. barracks with many thousands of kishes of turf yearly, at a very highly increased price, would be brought to feel that they are not the only source from which a supply of fuel can be derived; and the sufferings of the poor in the town, which are sometimes very great in the winter, would by this means be very much alleviated: the communication with the metropolis by the Grand Canal, as well as with the coal mines* in the county of Leitrim, favours such an undertaking.

Diseases of any kind do not appear to be endemic Diseases. in this parish, not even in the town, notwithstanding its low situation on the banks of the river, and the large extent of bog which nearly surrounds it; but fevers of the low nervous type, properly denominated Typhus, are sometimes epidemic in the heat of summer and autumn, which seems to arise rather

* The mode of conveyance from these mines is chiefly by the Shannon; they are about 60 miles from Athlone, 38 of which are navigable for boats of 60 tons burthen, and 10 miles more for boats of 20 tons; the remaining 12 miles require land carriage. The river runs within two miles of the pits which have been worked, and might be made navigable to Lough Allen, to the verge of which the vein of coals probably runs. Though this lough has been generally considered as the source of the Shannon, I have been informed by Captain John Larkin, of the royal navy, who lately visited it, that the source is about five miles farther to the north-west, taking its rise in a spring at the foot of a hill, in the townland of Derrylaghan, the estate of the Earl of Annesley, in the parish of Templeporte, in the county of Cavan. He relates a singularity of the well formed by this spring which is hardly credible; he says, he was informed, by the unanimous voice of the peasantry of the place, that it is unfathomable; that it has been often sounded by persons who came prepared with lead and long lines, with this result; but, having no means of sounding it himself, he could not assert it from his own knowledge.

Diseases. from the neglect of keeping their houses and persons clean, than any other cause, a charge which is too justly made against the peasantry of Ireland in general; and those of the western side of the Shannon do not afford any ground for making an exception in their favour. These circumstances can be attested from the personal knowledge and observation of the writer of this account, who has practised physic for more than twenty years among the inhabitants of the town and country; and though gentlemen of the medical staff have found that the troops, on their coming to this garrison, have been affected with diarrhæa, the writer never found that disease to prevail here as an endemic. However, that diseases should have been endemic among the military quartered here some years since, is easily accounted for; their general hospital, which was then temporary, being so close to the river that the walls of it were washed by the current in the winter, and in the summer exposed to the effluvia arising from the putrid animalculæ of the receding river, and putrescent aquatic vegetables deposited on the beach, and a large extent of low ground contiguous to it, which is always flooded in the winter, from which the marshy miasma, so productive of contagious disease, is plentifully generated and exhaled. But this cause does not now exist, for good hospitals have been built in the barracks, a very different situation for salubrity from that temporary hospital which was situated below the town. From this it might be concluded that this marshy miasma should produce a contagion that would affect the inhabitants of the town; but experience shews the contrary, for, while a great proportion of the military in this temporary hospital died, the inhabitants of the town remained free from

Endemic diseases.

their contagion and consequent mortality; and the reason of their being then, as at other times, free from that contagion, is obvious, for the current of the river may readily be conceived to carry off the effluvia which are generated to the south below the town, and no wind except the south (which seldom prevails here,) would convey the infection thither. Though the quantity of rain which falls here is very great, owing to the westerly winds, which blow little less than half the year at certain periods, carrying with them the exhalations of the great Atlantic Ocean, yet it does not seem to have any visible effect in producing particular diseases, as the rains in other climates do; perhaps a dry, absorbing limestone soil, so general around the country, except in the bogs, may be the cause which operates in preventing such effects.

Endemic diseases.

The natural small-pox is still frequent here, both in the town and country, notwithstanding vaccination; on the success of which the writer does not venture to give an opinion; time and attentive observation will decide on a subject of so great importance, the advantages of which, if established, as has been sanguinely set forth, will be most valuable to the human race; and the success of it is most devoutly to be wished, as one of the greatest blessings for preserving many of the human species.

Small pox.

VI. Genius and Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.

Most of the natives of this parish speak English; there are only a very few, and these the oldest grandmothers, who speak nothing but Irish: another generation will probably not find an individual ignorant

Language.

of the English language, for all the children speak it, and many of them cannot speak Irish; but in the more western parts this is not the case, though even in these the native language is on the decline.

Customs.

With respect to customs among the peasantry, it is to be observed, that glibbes (or long locks of hair) have long since disappeared; nor is the old Irish mantle to be found here, as in some of the more western parts; though it may be remarked, that the married women retain their maiden names, and would hardly be known by their next neighbours if they were called by the names of their husbands; and so economical are the men, that it is common with them to have their brogues made so large, as to admit a portion of straw in them, a practice which serves not only to keep their feet warm, (their stockings being often without feet,) but they are persuaded that their brogues last longer for being so large, a custom which prevails in other parts of Ireland as well as in this.

Superstitions.

The ridiculous notions of the existence of fairies and witches obtain implicit belief in the minds of the ignorant, who are extremely superstitious; and the number of absurd stories on this subject told among them, received with incredible avidity, repeated and believed, however inconsistent with reason and common sense, is hardly to be credited. These and such like customs may be looked on as harmless, when compared with customs which are a baneful source of vice; such are the collection of peasantry called patterns, more properly denominated patrons, being originally assemblies of people met together with their priest for prayers and the religious adoration to be paid to the saints who are con-

Patrons.

sidered the patrons of the places where these are Patrons.
held ; at which there is necessarily some holy well,
or other local object tending to call forth the at-
tendants' devotion. But these are, and have long
been, perverted to purposes of a different kind : that
“ which was called a place of prayer, is now become
a den of vice ;” for, by paraphrasing the words of
Dr. Goldsmith, we shall have the true character of
the votaries of those assemblages ; “ those who came
to scoff,” he says, “ remained to pray ;” but of these
we may say, that “ they who came to pray, re-
mained” to drink and fight. At these places are
always erected booths or tents, as in fairs, for selling
whiskey, beer, and ale, at which pipers and fiddlers
do not fail to attend, and the remainder of the day
and night (after their religious performances are
over and the priest withdrawn), is spent in singing,
dancing, and drinking to such excess, that it seems
more like the celebration of the orgies of Bacchus,
than the memory of a pious saint, from the drunken
quarrels and obscenities practised on these occa-
sions. So little is there of devotion, or amendment of
life or manners, from the performances for which
they would be thought to assemble at such places,
that they are frequently chosen for the scenes of
pitched battles, fought with cudgels by parties, not
only of parishes, but of counties, set in formal array
against each other, to revenge some real or supposed
injury. Murders are not an unusual result of these
meetings.

Though there are no patrons held in this pa-
rish, yet, as it is an invariable custom of the inhabi-
tants of this as well as all the neighbouring parishes,

Patrons. to frequent such places, it may not be irrelevant to name three of high celebrity for their sanctity and antiquity, and not less for the various immoralities practised during their celebration; these are the patrons of Bride's Well and St. John's in the county of Roscommon, and Clonmacnoise, alias Seven Churches, in the King's County, all near enough to the parish of St. Peter, to allow the frequenters of such places to indulge their passions, by joining in the practices of these assemblies.

May day. May-bushes are set up at the doors of the peasants on the last day of April; and the eve of St. John the Baptist is as constantly celebrated with bonfires here, as in any other part of Ireland. The former of these seems to be a heathenish custom, perhaps derived from the *ludi floreales* of the Romans, which were celebrated at the end of April, in honour of the Goddess of Flowers, the first of which make their appearance about this period of the year, and are gathered by the peasantry and strewed before their doors; but it is more probably a joyous mode of ushering in the following day, the 1st of May, which was dedicated to the god Baal, and is known in the Irish of the present day by the epithet *Labaalteine*, pronounced *Lavalteena*, (the letters B and V being commutable, particularly in compound words, in the Celtic language,) that is, the Day of Baal's Fire; the worship of this god or heathenish idol, which was introduced by the Phœnicians, (as history informs,*) being observed on that day, as the words clearly shew, the word *Lavalteena* being as familiar for the 1st day of May, as Christ-

* *Encycl. Brit.* v. 14. p. 616. *Ibid.* v. 9. p. 314.

mas is for the 25th of December. With respect to ^{St. John's} the latter, viz. the fires on the eve of St. John, it ^{eve.} seems to arise from the general custom of honouring the Apostles with a great light, thus representing them as the lights of Christianity in propagating the gospel; and St. John, the first who baptized for the Christian church, is held in pre-eminence, being the person who, by our Saviour, was called "a burning and a shining light.*" The custom of lighting twelve candles on the twelfth night after Christmas, and placing them (probably for want of candlesticks) in a sieve of oats, or set on some other substance on which they may be supported, in honour of the twelve Apostles, who were the twelve lights of the world in teaching Christianity, serves as a confirmation of the intention of the fires exhibited on St. John's eve.

These two last customs, it is unnecessary to say, ^{Customs.} are evidently Christian; but that the remains of Jewish sacrifices are also carried down into Christianity, and mixed with their customs, is pretty clearly traced in some of the practices existing in different classes of the natives of this and other parishes. On the eve of St. Martin, (who is one of the greatest saints in their calendar,) on the 11th of November, every family of a village kills an animal of some kind or other; those who are rich kill a cow or a sheep, others a goose or a turkey; while those who are poor, and cannot procure an animal of greater value,

* St. John, v. 35.—Some have alleged this to be a continuation of the fires lighted by the Druids in honour of their god Baal, at the summer solstice, one of the times when they honoured him in this way, as well as at the vernal equinox, 1st of May, 1st of August, and the eve of the 1st of November.

Customs. kill a hen or a cock, and sprinkle the threshold with the blood, and do the same in the four corners of the house ; and this ceremonious performance is done to exclude every kind of evil spirit from the dwelling where this sacrifice is made, till the return of the same day in the following year. Does not this look like a continuance of the command given to the Jews to take every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house, and to take it out from the sheep, or from the goats, and kill it in the evening, and take of the blood, and strike it on the lintel, and the two side posts of the houses wherein they shall eat it?*. Though this command was given with respect to the paschal sacrifice celebrated at Easter, it is to be observed that the Jews held another feast, a holy convocation on the seventh month ; and the saint's day on which this ceremony of killing some animal, and sprinkling the door and other parts of the house, is performed, is just seven months from Easter, reckoning that feast to fall early in the month of April, as it generally does.

Another custom, or religious adoration, is that of praying to the new moon the first time that luminary is seen after its change. This seems to be a mixture of Jewish and Heathen worship, of which Selden de Diis Syriis speaks, as related in the *additamenta M. Andr. Beyer*, page 80, where he also quotes a French author, saying of the inhabitants of Ireland, “ *se mettent a genoux en voyant la lune nouvelle, et disent en parlant a la lune ; laisse nous ausi sains que tu nous as trouvé.*” Here is still retained a piece of

* *Exodus xii. 3, &c.*

the religion of the Phœnicians who at one time peopled Ireland,* who worshipped the sun and moon, and all the host of Heaven. And did not the Jews also offer burnt sacrifices, and drink offerings in the new moons?†

That barbarous custom, the Irish cry at wakes, is still kept up here in all its savage howl of discordant sounds, calculated to shock the ears of any civilized member of human society; a custom which requires only to be heard to decide that it is derived from a barbarous people. It can certainly pretend to no Christian authority. The assembling of the peasantry to these wakes, is well described by a Heathen poet, when he says,

Haud mora: festinant——rapidisque feruntur—
At domus interior gemitu miseroque tumultu
Miscetur: penitusque cavæ plangoribus ædes
Fœmineis ululant: ferit anrea sidera clamor.

Such barbarous customs are a most incontestible proof of the absence of sorrow, for grief disdains the form which such a savage howl affects; it does not submit to rules for expressing what it feels; instead of publishing its sorrows to the world, it shuns ostentation, and seeks retirement.

VII. *The Education & Employment of Children, &c.*

Beside the school already mentioned in Sec. III. there are one licensed and four unlicensed schools in this parish, which teach the rudiments of English,

* Encycl. Brit. v. 9. p. 314.

† i Chronicles, xxiii. 31. and Ezekiel xlv. 17.

Schools. writing, and accounts. The pupils of all these taken together in the summer of 1814, amounted to above 300. There are also two grammar schools, one of which is licensed.

Mendicity. Mendicity is very general in this parish, particularly in the part of it which is in the town. There are beggars here from every county in Ireland, and even from England and Scotland, the number of whom is greatly increased from the circumstance of donations and bequests made by pious men to the poor of both parishes of this town. To entitle them to a portion of these funds, indigent persons come and reside; who, added to the native poor, become a farther burthen on the charity of the benevolent. But other circumstances contribute also to augment the number of mendicants: Athlone being the great pass between Leinster and Connaught, brings thither many settlers of that description; and a number of soldiers' wives, (and their children,) who are left by their husbands when ordered on foreign service, as well as the widows of those who die in the garrison, serve to render that class of the community still more numerous. This, it is hardly necessary to observe, calls loudly for a remedy, which the statutes of the 11th and 12th of the present reign abundantly supply, as they would be perfectly adequate to remove the evil, if acted upon as they ought. These furnish grand juries with full powers "to erect corporations in every county for the relief of the poor, and build houses of industry for vagabonds and sturdy beggars." If these powers, which the wisdom of the legislature has furnished, were brought into operation, it would be productive of the most salutary effects in this town, as it would be a means of still

greater improvement, that of freeing it of a multitude of common prostitutes, who, in the face of the sun, infest the streets, as well as the hedges and ditches about the town, not only to the destruction of the morals of the present as well as the rising generation, but even in violation of common decency: to such a pitch is depravity risen; that vice does not hide its deeds in darkness, but boldly stalks abroad in open day.

VIII. State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.

The parish of St. Peter is a perpetual cure, of Advowson, which the Rev. Dr. Streat is the minister, the rectory being vested in the Incorporated Society for promoting Charter Schools; and the tythes, with the Tythes, reversional tythes of twelve other parishes so vested, are appropriated to the uses and trusts of supporting the schools built from these and other funds at Athlone and Roscommon, as already mentioned in Sec. III. The late Bishop of Elphin, who appointed the present incumbent to the parish, considered it a vicarage, because there is no clerical rector to whom the incumbent can be curate assistant, and the parish is not so extensive as to have any allocation of tythes, or a second church to which a perpetual curate should be appointed. It is given under a perpetual license, from which circumstance (most unprecedented) it may, during the present incumbency, be called a perpetual cure.

This parish has, besides a Protestant minister, Tythes, two Popish priests. The incumbent has nothing whatever to do with the tythes, which, as returned

Tythes. by the person who views and collects them, appear to be set at the following rates :

	Barrels	s.
Wheat, which produces about 6 an acre, at 10		
Oats... .. 10	...	6
Bere... .. 12	...	8
Flax... .. 0	...	0
Potatoes 40	..	0
Rape 10	...	0
Meadow 0	...	0

There are some parts of the parish which do not pay tythes. This probably arose from the circumstance related by Sir James Ware, that “ King John granted to the monks of St. Peter, who were of the order of Cistercians, the tythes of the charges of the castle which was built upon the monks’ ground ;” and when the grounds, paying tythes to the monks only, who had no survivors, fell into the hands of the laity, on the suppression of the monastery, they remained tythe free to the occupiers. This appears to be probable, from the names of some of the townlands which claim this privilege, viz. Curraghnamach, the English of which is, the Monks’ Marsh, a denomination descriptive of the local situation of the ground, it being a low fenny land, surrounded by a bog belonging originally to the monks of the abbey.

Glebe. There is a small glebe in this parish, which was granted to the present incumbent, and a glebe-house, which, as well as the church, was built by him, in the year 1804.

Parish registry. There are no records nor registry, except that of the parish, which began with the appointment of the

present incumbent, and of course contains nothing of earlier date than 1802, the commencement of his incumbency.

Beside the collections made in the church on Sunday, there are two charitable funds, one of them ^{Parochial funds.} the interest of fifty pounds bequeathed by Robert Sherwood, who died an inhabitant of the parish; the other arises from land granted by an ancestor of Lord Castlemaine, by deed, dated the 9th June, 1705, the rent of which is to be distributed by the representative of the donor, to certain poor of the parishes of St. Peter and St. Mary, who shall be recommended by the ministers and church-wardens of said parishes jointly. The amount of this donation is, at present, thirty pounds per annum.

There is a very extensive brewery* in the part of ^{Brewery.} the town that is in this parish, which, beside beer and ale, produces annually about 8000 barrels of porter, under the partnership of the Hon. William Le Poer Trench, Thomas Evans, and William Oliver Stephens. There are four mills in this parish, two of ^{Mills.} which dress about 1800 barrels of wheat each, one dresses 1000 barrels of oats, and the fourth about 1300 barrels of oats, beside 700 barrels of wheat.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

There are no large farms in this parish; the lands ^{Rent of Land.} at the distance of a mile or more from the town, are set, at an average, for about £1 10s. per acre, the

* There is also a brewery in that part of the town which is in the parish of St. Mary.

highest being £2 and the lowest £1. Those near the town vary considerably, according to the time when they have been set, more than the quality of the ground, viz. from three to six guineas; and those set to the government for the use of his majesty's works, (by the inquisition of an impannelled jury under the authority of the Defence Act,) for ten pounds; and even the bog, both reclaimed and unreclaimed, near the town, is set for four guineas an acre.

Manures.
Burning
land.

The manure generally made use of is straw and the dung of cattle. Some few burn the low moory ground and verges of the bogs with great advantage; this produces a good crop of rape, yielding generally ten barrels of seed to the acre, which is sold for about £1 2s. 9d. a barrel; and the low grounds treated in this way, in many instances, become good meadow; but the deep bog, after a crop of rape, usually gives no more than three crops of oats or rye, and then requires the same process of burning again, otherwise it returns to a state nearly as barren as that from which it has been reclaimed, except that it will produce some coarse browsing for cattle. Some few burn so much as is intended for furrows of the higher ground, commonly called upland, for manure for potatoes, the ashes of which, spread on the ridges, produce a good crop. Although this mode of cultivation is generally supposed to lessen the quantity of soil, and of course to injure the shallow ground, yet how far the allegation is supported by experience, the writer cannot take on himself to assert; but thus far he can say, that he has been obliged to act as a magistrate, on the complaint of landlords for such proceedings of their tenants, and to decree according to the penalty of the statute; in these proceedings it has

not appeared that the complainants had any other motive than that of preventing the waste of their land, as was most fully evident in some of the cases, the landlords having previously warned their tenants not to burn the ground. The object, therefore, could not be that of obtaining the fine. Sed forsán adhuc sub júdice lis est.

Though limestone is in abundance both on the sur- Limestone.
face and under ground, in what are called running quarries, very easy obtainable, and large quantities burned almost daily for building, the writer has never seen either lime or marl (which also abounds on the surface) used for manure in this parish. If he were to suggest a reason why this most valuable species of manure has not been so generally made use of as it deserves, he would suppose it is because an injudicious manner of employing it has prevented it from answering the farmers' expectation. And if the nature of lime (i. e. calcined calcareous earth or stone,) be considered, it will perhaps, give some assistance to the experimental, and guide the practical farmer in its use, so as to produce the advantages it is capable of affording to the judicious observer, and of which it has in some instances failed.

Lime, as it is commonly called, differs in no respect from limestone, except that by the action of fire, in the kiln, it is deprived of its fixed air, known by the different terms azote, carbonic acid or carbon, which the eye of an observer may perceive going off in large quantities during the operation of its calcination; and that this carbon constitutes a very large portion of the original limestone, in its

Limestone. natural state, is evident from the difference of weight between the calcined stone and the same stone before it has been subjected to the action of fire. It is well known that carbonic acid enters in large quantities into plants in the course of vegetation,* and therefore whatever can supply the plant, either in the early stage of its growth, when the seed is evolving into its specific form, with nutriment, or nourish it afterwards in its progressive advance to perfection and maturity, must be useful in proportion to the quantity of nutritive material it can supply. That lime is capable of affording this material, which is the largest component part of vegetables, in a greater proportion than any other known species of manure, is evident from the quantity of carbonic acid it parts with, while under the operation of what is called burning in the kiln, as well as the comparative state of its weight when thus calcined.

A fertile soil contains about one-sixteenth of its weight of carbon, such as lime supplies;† and Vauquelin shews, by his experiments, that the carbonate of lime exists in vegetables; and the common experiment, by burning, proves that lime contains little less than one half of its weight of carbon: lime, therefore, can add a large portion of carbon to the soil it is mixed with, and thereby render it more or less fertile, in proportion to the quantity in which it is made use of. And as it is the quality of lime to absorb from the atmosphere a portion of carbon to supply that of which it has been, by any means, deprived; after it has given out its carbon in assisting the progress of vegetation, it will again replace its

* *Encycl. meth. Physic. Veget.* p. 227. † *Annal. de Chimie* v.31, 32.

loss from the atmosphere when vegetation has ceased, *Limestone.* and may thus be conceived to be a kind of a renovating store of this part of the pabulum of vegetables, which it generally supplies them with in the process of their growth, as what it thus bestows, it can restore again to itself during the winter season, when, in this climate, nature seems to rest from her labours in an almost total cessation from every species of her vegetative operations; so that by the time she begins again to set her powers to work in the spring, the lime, which has been mixed with the soil, and performed its part in the vegetative operations of the former year, is prepared, from its full replenished stores, again to deliver its contribution for promoting the vigour of the vegetable world. In this way lime becomes not a transient, but a perennial source of carbon, generously supplied from its renovating granaries, to the vegetation around it.

Now the mistaken manner of applying this valuable manure, so as to produce that material it may be made to bring with it, seems to be the cause of its not giving that assistance to vegetation which it is capable of affording. For farmers, being told that lime is a good manure, erroneously think that, because it becomes warm on the application of moisture, it therefore acts to the advantage of the crop by warming the ground, as it is called, and therefore spread it on their land before it has been slaked; a practice which, instead of serving, must be injurious both to the soil and crop, as in this state it attracts the carbon, of which it had been deprived by calcination, from both the soil and the seed, depriving the one of the small portion of carbonic nutrition contained in its farina, and the other of perhaps the whole

Limestone. of what it could have supplied to nourish the plants committed to it, had not the lime forced it away; for it has been observed, that lime, after some time, returns to its original state, by attracting from every thing around it the carbonic acid of which it had been deprived by calcination, greedily absorbing it, till it becomes again a component part of a limestone perfectly homogeneous with what it had been before its decomposition, by the application of fire in the kiln. Thus it is that it produces heat when water is poured on it; for such is its avidity for that element, that the violent collision and attrition produced by their coming rapidly into contact, leaves innumerable spaces momentarily open, into which the electric fluid, so universally diffused through and occupying all places in nature, rushes with violence, and produces that heat which every one, who has seen the operation, knows to obtain in slaking lime. But this heat, (which some say is latent, and expelled by the water,) being transient, it is evident, cannot be useful to vegetation, for it ceases almost as soon as the lime is slaked, while the lime, not yet saturated with carbon, (the water with which it is slaked not affording a sufficient quantity of that acid,) still retains the power of depriving every surrounding substance of their carbon, to supply what in calcination it had lost; and thus, instead of fertilizing, it deteriorates the soil, by extracting from it the vegetative material it may have previously possessed in its undisturbed state of nature. It is obvious, then, that it is not by heat that lime operates as a manure, but from another principle, namely, that of supplying the plants, growing on the soil with which it is mixed, with a portion of its carbon, which it acquires in due time either from the sur-

rounding atmosphere, of which carbon is a component part, or any other substance containing it, with which it may come in contact; and, therefore, is not to be made use of as a manure until its carbon has been restored, otherwise it must not only fail of producing the effect the farmer had promised himself from his labour in procuring it, but for some time be injurious to his crops. And this is corroborated by the observation of those whose experience has taught them that the first crop, after manuring with lime, is not generally so good as the succeeding; and for this reason, that lime requires (from the observation of chymists) at least a year to recompose it, by restoring its carbon, and render it capable of assisting in vegetation.

This is still farther confirmed by the rational custom of some farmers, who mix their lime with dung or mould, or some other earthy substance, which mixture they call a compost, and leave it in that state for some months, some for a year or more, before they spread it on their lands for manure. This mode of management affords the lime time for, and supplies it with the means of, absorbing from the other parts of this compost, as well as from the superincumbent atmosphere, the carbon which it had lost, and is necessary to enable it to assist in the which process of vegetation.

The manner in which lime acts as a manure, appears then to be, that, when saturated with carbon, which it is capable of containing in a very large proportion, it is then a vehicle for conveying food to plants, by giving out its carbon, in a certain regulated quantity, to those placed in contact with it, so

Limestone. as to contribute its portion of the component parts which are necessary in the process of vegetation; and of course, that the mechanical action of fire in converting the limestone to quick or caustic lime, which is commonly called burning, serves no other purpose but that of reducing its substance to a powder easily miscible with the mould on which it is laid; and that if, by any other means, such as pounding, it were reduced to as fine a powder as it is by the application of fire, it would be equally useful for the purposes of manure. This allegation is supported by the valuable effects of marl when employed as a manure. Marl is nothing more than limestone in a fine impalpable powder, not comminuted by art, but found existing in a state of nature in that form to which calcareous earth, found in the form of stones, and called limestone, is reduced by the action of fire, and afterwards recomposed by restoring its carbon; yet this species of manure, when mixed in a proper proportion, requires not a year or two to render it a fertilizing manure, because it comes furnished with its store of carbon ready to contribute its assistance, and generously performs its part without much delay.

It would appear, then, that, on this principle, limestone requires no other process of preparation for rendering it a profitable manure, than the act of comminution, whatever means may be used for that purpose, whether it be by burning or any other process, provided the carbon it contains in a state of nature be retained, or restored, if by calcination it has been deprived of it.

Thus, when lime is judiciously, or, as we might say, chymically managed, it will not only bear its

part by affording its own proportion of assistance to Limestone. vegetation in giving out its carbon, but it will also contribute in an ulterior degree by taking with it associates in the wonderful operations of vegetation. For, as acids of every kind (and carbon contained in lime is one of them,) unite with alkalis, and form therewith neutral salts of different qualities and names, such as barilla, soda, pot-ashes, &c. (which chymistry shews to exist in all plants, both inland and marine,) the carbon supplied by lime we may readily conceive carrying with it, in its progress, some of these alkalis formed into neutral salts, and these neutrals still uniting with themselves other assistants as they proceed, and combining their powers on their way, to perfect the plant, which thus, in the poet's words, we may say,

——— *Viget, viresque acquirit eundo.*

As in every other of the operations of nature, how astonishing is this part of the works of creation, which is so admirably carried on, that nothing but omniscience could have contrived, nothing less than omnipotence executed; on which, while we reason and adore the Author of such secret operations, we must say, "the works of God are unsearchable, and his ways past finding out." It may not be irrelevant to notice the general idea that lime cannot be a manure on a limestone soil; an error which, it is to be apprehended, has precluded even a trial of this valuable substance on such grounds, without once reflecting that it is not the quantity of lime, but the manner of applying, that renders it useful to vegetation. As limestones in large masses, it is cer-

Limestone. Limestone, do not part with their carbon without the intense heat of fire, they will much less give it out to the soil or vegetables contiguous to which they are placed by nature, where the powers around them are not competent to extract it; but when reduced to a powder by calcination, or what is called lime, it will bestow, without difficulty, the pabulum it contains, and, to a limestone soil, as well as that of other qualities, will prove itself a profitable manure. On this same principle it is, that the mortar of old buildings is a most fertile manure when broken small, because it has been replenished with its full quantity of carbon during the time it has remained in the buildings.

If any farther argument were wanting to prove that lime, in process of time, recovers its carbon, it would be found in the observation of masons, who say, that old mortar, though wet and worked ever so well, will not again become a cement (or as they call it, "make bond,") without the addition of fresh lime. The reason is, that the lime, of which it was made, being supplied with its full portion of carbon, can now serve no farther purpose than as sand, it being nothing more than powdered limestone mixed with the sand originally used in its formation in making the mortar.

It may, perhaps, be worth observing, that this same principle will account for the difference between the cement made use of by the ancients and that of the moderns, and correct the erroneous opinion of those who believe that the mode of making good mortar is lost to the present age. Seeing that the mortar, which by time is become so hard and inseparable that the stones which it originally held together, and still

holds, may be more easily broken than the cement Limestone. that unites them, they were led into this error; and thus they, who allege that the mortar in the ruins of old castles, &c. which had been erected some centuries ago, is of better quality than that of modern times, give a credit to the ancients, for their knowledge in making a more durable cement than the moderns, which they by no means merit; for the true cause is, that the atmosphere, through a lapse of time, has restored to the lime, which makes a part of the cement, its full portion of carbon, and thereby recomposed a stony matter, (mixed with sand, which is an imperishable substance,) similar to what the lime was before it was calcined. And on this principle it is that if the sand, with which the lime is mixed in making mortar, be pure, that cement will not only resist the vicissitudes of the weather, but will daily become firmer and progressively harder, till it arrives at its original hardness of a stone; which will take place whenever it shall be fully saturated with the quantity of carbon necessary for producing that effect. But for this purpose it is indispensably necessary that the sand made use of should be free, or, by ablution, be freed from all impurities of heterogeneous matter, if an unchangeable cement is expected, otherwise moisture and frost will insinuate into the retained impurities, and cause those parts of materials, which are incapable of resisting the vicissitudes of the weather, to moulder away. The want of attention to these facts is the cause why many buildings, as well of expensive as of inferior kinds, have disappointed the builders' expectation, since, without such precautions, they can neither exclude wet, nor be permanent.

Bleaching. While there is cause to regret the neglected advantage which a judicious use of lime, so bountifully bestowed on the inhabitants of this part of our island, is capable of producing to the farmer in the culture of his ground, the destructive effects of it in bleaching linen, as it is made use of by some petty manufacturers in the vicinity of this town, is a just subject for animadversion. There are a number of linen weavers in this and the neighbouring parishes, who, before the depression in their trade, had been employed by manufacturers of a higher class in weaving dowlass and sheeting, which were sent in large quantities to the Dublin market, and some bleached in the country. When these ceased to employ them, from a want of sale for these kinds of linen during the war, those weavers became necessitated to work at their trade on their own account, and, under such circumstances, the utmost capital that any of them could procure, being hardly sufficient to purchase yarn enough for one piece, while the wants of their families were urgent, they were obliged to bring the subject of their labour as speedily as possible to market; and finding that lime was the most powerful agent they could make use of for this purpose, and procurable in great plenty, almost without expense, they as plentifully made use of it in the process of hasty bleaching; by which they can have their linen ready for the market, and tolerably white, in two or three days after it is cut out of the loom. Hence it is, that a coarse kind of narrow linen, calculated for shirts for the peasantry, and other inferior uses, has for some years been manufactured and brought to the market of Athlone prepared in this way, without once considering the injury that is done to the linen by this mode of bleaching, which so

destroys the fibre of the flax it is made of, that many pieces of what are sold in the market are almost as easily torn as a piece of brown paper. How much this calls for the attention of an inspector, is hardly necessary to be mentioned. Bleaching.

The writer, in relating these facts, would not be understood to insinuate that lime may not be usefully employed in bleaching, and with the utmost safety to the linen which is to be whitened. For though lime operates in a different way, it produces the same effect as the acids which are used in bleaching, that is, by extracting from the linen the same component part which acids, by another mode of acting, separate in the process of bleaching, viz. the fixed air or carbon which the linen, in its brown or unbleached state, contains. This may appear more plainly, when it is considered, that this carbon is a cause of the dark colour in substances containing it, as is evident to common observation; for limestone, how dark or black soever, as some kinds of marble, (which is limestone,) becomes white when its carbon is expelled, as may be seen by the white spots in those parts of black marble chimney-pieces, which are near the fire, becoming larger by the power of heat, as well as a total whiteness of the whole mass of such coloured marble being produced by calcination, which is nothing more than an expulsion of carbon by fire.

It is likewise well known that it is the property of the stronger to expel from any substance with which they come in contact the weaker acids, and, by their stronger attraction, to adhere to the substance from which the weaker have been expelled. Thus, in the operation of bleaching, the strong acid expels the

Bleaching. carbon, (which is a weak acid, and the cause of the dark colour,) and thereby renders the linen white. And lime, though it does not adhere to the linen, as the acids do, extracts this carbon to supply the defect of that of which it had been deprived by calcination; and thus, though in a different way, both produce the same effect, as each carries off from the linen that component part of the unbleached cloth which denominates it brown. Hence it is obvious that lime, in a proper quantity, as well as the acids judiciously diluted, may probably be used in bleaching linen with very great advantage, provided the quantity is no more than is sufficient to remove so much of the carbon as may be discharged from the linen without destroying the fibre which constitutes its stamina. Under these circumstances, may it not be made a question whether the rational bleacher may not extract information from this pernicious practice, and by a careful attention to the operation of lime, (if it has not already attracted his consideration,) and a judicious application of it by allowing a more slow process of some weeks instead of a few days only for producing the effect it is capable of, be enabled to supersede the necessity of using those more expensive materials, hitherto indispensable in preparing our staple commodity for market, and thus render the public, as well as the manufacturer, an essential service.

Implements.

Our implements of husbandry are nearly the same they were many years ago. No threshing machine has been introduced, nor a winnowing machine except one, and one plough, on an improved plan, both the property of Mr. J. Sproule; all that kind of work is done by the tedious, imperfect, and unprofit-

able labour of the hand. However, a good number of spoke-wheeled cars and carts have been introduced within a few years.

The price of labour in the country part of the parish, which had been but 6*d.* is now 1*s.* 1*d.* per day; in the town it is 1*s.* 4*d.* Prices of labour.

By the charter of the corporation of Athlone there are two fairs in the year, one on Ascension Day, and the other on the feast of St. Bartholomew; each to continue for two (which are extended, by custom, to three) days. There are, besides, two other fairs, held in the Leinster side of Athlone; one on the first Monday after old Twelfth tide, the other in March. There are, beside these, three weekly markets, held on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. These markets are well supplied with all sorts of provisions, beef, mutton, veal, lamb, kid, fowl, fish, and pork, with various kinds of vegetables; and notwithstanding it is the central town of the kingdom, it is well supplied with sea fish from the Western Ocean; the Shannon, at the same time, furnishing river fish, as before mentioned. Fairs, Markets.

For want of a book of the entries of sales and prices, agreeable to the 4th of Anne, chap. 11, and 6th, chap. 12, it is impossible to give an accurate account of the prices of the cattle sold in these fairs; but for some years past, hunters have been sold at from 50 to 100 or 150 guineas each; but the prices of these are guided more by the fancy and purse of the purchaser than the intrinsic value of the animal. And though fancy is sometimes predominant in the price of saddle horses for the road, so as to cause Prices of cattle.

Prices of
cattle.

some of them to have brought so high a price as 60 or 70 guineas; the more general price, for some years, has been from 40 to 50, and common horses, for car and plough, from 20 to 30 guineas; and carriages horses of a good kind, well matched and trained, from 60 to 100 guineas the pair. Sheep have sold from 2*l.* to 3*l.* 10*s.* each; and bullocks, of the best quality, from 15*l.* to 25*l.* and even 30*l.* Cows have been sold at so high a price as from 15*l.* to 25*l.* each. These prices may perhaps seem very high; but it is to be considered, that the cattle which are exhibited in these fairs, come immediately from the breeding parts of the country, and are of the very best quality and breed. But though these have been the prices asked and given for ten or fifteen years past, the prices of all are fallen more than one-third within the last year.

Though the numbers sold in these fairs are difficult to be ascertained, the collectors of the tolls and customs say there are about five hundred horses shewn for sale in the fairs of January and September, beside other cattle; and in the fairs held in the months of March and May, beside horses, (not in such numbers as in the other fairs of the year,) there are from three to four thousand sheep, and about two thousand cows and bullocks,

There are no other fairs in this parish; and, in a religious point of view, it is well there are not; for painful is the sensation that must be excited in the breast of every sincere professor of Christianity to hear of, and how much more grievous to those who, as periodically as these fairs return, witness, the assemblage of graziers, horse-jockies, sellers and buy-

ers of cattle, &c. &c. from twelve or one o'clock on Fairs. the Sundays which precede these fairs, (some of which are always held on Mondays,) in the public street, as earnest in selling and buying, and with as much unconcern, as if they were ignorant that a Sabbath existed ; and as regardless of its sanctity, as if the respect due to it made no part of the decalogue which the God of Heaven delivered to man, and ordered him to obey by keeping that day holy. And to such excess has the depravity of this profane practice grown, that even the public worship is superseded by it, as the parishioners cannot make their way to the church through the numbers of cattle, &c. &c. which obstruct the street. It might be reasonably concluded, that some temporal advantages must arise from this practice ; yet no one can be benefited by it—no interest, public or private, be served ; nor could either of these be a motive originally to promote or still to cause such a profanation to be continued ; for the slightest reflection would shew, that no temporal benefit can be promoted, either collectively or individually, by such unsabbatical pursuits, and unchristian contempt of God's laws : for, were the business of these fairs confined to the three days on which, by the charter, they are appointed to be held, it would not only render them more beneficial to the town, (as there are many whose conscientious regard for the Sabbath will not suffer them, by their attendance, to profane a day dedicated to more sacred uses than that of public fairs, though they thereby forego the opportunity of selling the articles they have to dispose of,) but even the tolls and customs would be increased by the additional numbers who would thus be induced to attend

Fairs.

on the days appointed by the law. It appears, then, that it would not only be a public as well as individual advantage, but an act of Christian charity, if a public notice were given from legal authority, some time before these fairs, setting forth a caution that they will not be suffered to be held on Sundays, as heretofore, under the penalty the law may inflict, which, by 7th of William III. chap. 17. sec. 1. is "a forfeiture of every kind of goods, wares, chattels, shewed forth or exposed to sale on Sunday." This would at once deter sellers from risking their property under such circumstances, and the law of the land would thus effectually remove a shameful abuse, which the law of God has so long failed to prevent.

Tolls.

The tolls and pontage (that is, a distinct toll for cattle passing the bridge), are vested, one half in the corporation, and the other in the Incorporated Society for promoting Charter Schools. A legal and spirited opposition to the extortion practised in the collection of tolls in some other towns, has been made with success, which, though it loudly calls for correction and punishment in many places, the writer has never known to require animadversion in this town.

Courts.

Athlone is a corporation and borough, created by King James I., consisting of a sovereign, two bailiffs, twelve burgesses, and an unlimited number of freemen, who, before the Union, returned two members to parliament, but since that period they return only one. By their charter, the corporation is empowered to hold a court every three weeks for the recovery of small debts not exceeding five pounds, and the sovereign to decide summarily for any debt not ex-

ceeding five shillings. It is also impowered to hold Pie poudre court. that species of court denominated *Pie poudre*, or *Curia pedis pulverizati*; and a most useful sort of court this is, as it is calculated for administering justice for all injuries done during the fair, but extends no farther, and is thus framed to promote and protect the trade of the place where the fair is held, “by deciding disputes as speedily as dust can fall from the feet, or before the litigating parties could have time to wipe the dust off their feet.”

X. Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.

The town of Athlone is well situated for trade, Trade. having the great river Shannon running through it, which, by means of a canal somewhat more than a mile long, connecting that part of the river which is above the town with that below it, is rendered navigable along several counties for thirty-eight miles farther to the north-west, and to the south is navigable to the sea through Limerick sixty-two miles down the river, where ships of the largest burthen carry on a trade from the Atlantic. A communication is also formed (by the Grand Canal, which joins the Shannon seventeen miles below Athlone) with Dublin, to which a considerable trade is carried on by merchants, whose boats convey the productions of the adjoining counties to the capital, bringing in return the commodities of the city to the country.

The manufacture of felt hats has been long carried Manufactures. on here, and the town of Athlone been of some celebrity for its felts. Beside this, frizes are manufactured, from the wool, through their different processes, till they are ready for the tailor, and employ

Manufac-
tures,

in this parish about forty-two weavers, beside women for carding and their children for winding, &c. In the adjoining parish this manufacture is carried on much more extensively. By this it is that they are generally enabled to pay their rents; and to the same it is owing that the peasantry are generally well clothed, while many of their cabins are destitute of every comfort; in which it is not unusual to see the cow and a litter of pigs occupying the same apartments with the master of the habitation and his wife and children; and in some instances these cabins are but ill calculated for these cattle which are housed in them, being often badly covered with thatch, and the walls, which are made of sods, or stones without mortar, pervious to almost every blast. Except those employed in making frizes, and a few artificers, the generality of the people in the country are occupied in farming. In the town, the shop-keepers and artificers form the great majority.

XI. *Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.*

This parish does not furnish any instances for the subject of this section, except the siege and the explosion of the magazine noticed in section III.

Incum-
bents.

List of incumbents, extracted from the First Fruits' Records:

1615. Vicaria Sancti Petri de Athlone, Johannes Anckera, artium magister et pdicator curatus in ea parte quæ est in comitatu.—The small tythes go with the house of Athlone.

Edrus Wallin, presbiter possidet vicariam Sti. Petri de Athlone not in tax.

XII. *Suggestions for Improvement, and means for meliorating the condition of the People.*

With respect to the mode for meliorating the condition of the poor, it would require more observations than the writer feels himself able to make, to be satisfactory. So far as assisting them in a predial way, whatever would teach them a better mode of cultivating their farms, which are at this day managed in the old unimproved manner that their ancestors used, would certainly be of service to the people; and the introduction of improved implements of husbandry would very much contribute to the same end. Encouraging them to sow grass seeds and clover, on letting out their ground, would be a great improvement in the farming of this and the neighbouring parishes, as it would be a means of saving a year's rent of a considerable portion of the tillage ground in every period of four or five years; as, for so many years, after being manured, will their ground, in general, produce potatoes and corn, when it must be laid down for grass, and, for want of sowing grass seeds or clover, the ground so laid down remains almost without any kind of herbage for one year at least, and of course for that time remains unproductive to the occupier. An additional means of being of use to the people would be the reclaiming of barren grounds, and teaching them the best modes of applying those kinds of manure which are to be found in their neighbourhood, if not on their own little farms; as this would be a means of increasing the quantity of their food, and giving them a profitable employment, as well as adding their portion to a public benefit.

As this parish is inhabited by a great number of men and women who manufacture frizes, and many a poor couple who, from a hasty marriage, and some even who deliberately enter into that state, are obliged to go into a house of their own, without a wheel to spin, or a loom to weave on, their state becomes miserable for want of the machinery they have been accustomed to work with, and which, if hired, would be too expensive for them to procure. The distribution of looms and wheels to these, it is obvious, would be a most valuable means of enabling such a class of people to earn a livelihood, and thus keep them from idleness and the various species of vice which as naturally flow from such a state as a stream from its fountain.

Any means that would contribute also to the melioration of their condition with respect to their health, is a subject of great moment. How to accomplish this, by any other mode than that of premiums held out to induce them to keep their persons and cabins clean, the writer has not been able to devise, since all reasoning with them on the subject is vain, except that an attentive interposition of landlords might have some effect to that end, if exerted as it might. Perhaps the state of filth in which many of the inhabitants of these western parts of Ireland live, may be attributed to idleness, arising from a want of employment, as much as to poverty. And this conjecture seems to be confirmed by comparing the northern parts of the kingdom with the western. The former are all industriously employed from their early to their latest age, and their cabins are comparatively clean, their persons neat, and disease, most probably, much less frequent among them (though a

tabular return of the diseases of these different provinces cannot be adduced), than among the inhabitants of the west. These means, if put in practice, would probably be of much utility, though they do not strike at the root of the evil; and, until the fountain is made pure, all other means can have no more than a partial effect—*Sincerum nisi sit vas quodcunque infundis acecit.*—Till some mode of instilling early principles of moral truth, honesty and religion are applied, comfort and independence may be looked for in vain; without these, the nearest ties of neighbourhood or connexions of kindred, instead of being assistants in the circle of society, are often destructive of each other's happiness.

May not these consequences be reasonably supposed to arise from the well-known fact that, in the children of the greatest part of the peasantry, falsehood is taught by seeing it practised in others, and impressed by the example of those around them, while the sacred name of God is blasphemed in almost every sentence they utter, without remorse or reprimand from the parents; so that there is no fear of punishment for such immoralities, (to give them no harsher name,) either here or hereafter; and so prevalent are these vices, that they “grow with their growth, and strengthen with their strength” from infancy to manhood, and are so fixed in the habits and principles of this class, (would we could say it did not exist in any other!) that neither in the common transactions of life, nor in the intercourse with their neighbours, can they tell truth, when they think falsehood will answer their own purpose, or when it may forward the plan of an accomplice in their crimes, or the companions of their vice; and so ac-

customed are they, in common conversation, to swear by the name of God, that the awe which should accompany, or the sacred obligation which should bind the person who takes a legal oath, makes so little impression on their minds, that in a court of justice no persuasion can elicit, nor fear of the punishment annexed to the crime of perjury extort, truth, so as to enable the judge who presides on the bench to satisfy himself that his decision is according to the merits of the case, or a jury to return such a verdict as their consciences would dictate on a fair trial and unprejudiced evidence.

Notwithstanding this absence of moral truth, the fountain from which so many evils spring, it is hardly credible, to those who have not witnessed it, to what an extent instinctive hospitality reaches; the shelter of their cabin, such as it is, is most generously offered to any one of their own, or any other class, who may stand in need of it; and they are equally ready to share their food with those who appear to want.

Such principles as these, (their hospitality excepted,) and such conduct as this, alienate the regard of the higher classes from such persons; they excite disgust, and weaken the ties of compassion so natural in the mind of man for the distresses of his fellow-creature; and when the feelings are thus blunted by such vices, they owe it to themselves that less attention is shewn to their situation than a contrary conduct might ensure. However melancholy the picture, there seem to be no effectual steps taken for correcting it; for though education is the means, and schools exist for education, which in this parish instruct above three hundred pupils, yet what good

result can the system which is generally pursued produce, where, except in the grammar schools, little more is taught than spelling, or a manner of reading little better than spelling; and if some advance farther, and are capable of understanding what they read, books of morality, which would teach the principles and practice of virtue and the horrors of vice, are too seldom made a part of their studies. Many valuable tracts of this kind exist, yet are seldom taught; and the Bible, that best of all systems of morality which was ever taught by man, is rarely admitted into these schools. The guide of men's moral conduct is thus kept away from them; the precepts a Saviour delivered for their instruction, and the commands which God himself gave for them to obey, together with the rewards annexed to virtue both here and hereafter, and the punishments to be inflicted for the various species of vice which they practice, are left unknown to them, notwithstanding they are so clearly set forth in the scriptures, and so powerfully enforced by the authority of the God who made them, that, if they were allowed to read them, they would see and feel that, though man does not, God, for their sins, will call them into judgment; and some, at least, by these means, would be terrified from their crimes; and become examples to others, and thus lay a foundation for removing those vices which are the chief source of their miseries. The want of principles of morality, which should have been inculcated in early life, leaves them so little sensible of the utility of common probity, that they become litigious about trifles, and feel but little compunction in endeavouring to possess themselves of their neighbour's property, by whatever means it can

be obtained. The co-partnerships which they have in their farms, whether held by lease or otherwise, give frequent opportunities for indulging this litigious disposition, and excite, while they enable, them to over-reach each other in the divisional lots of the common property which is laid out for tillage or meadow, or the number of cattle each should have on the common pasture, as well as numerous contentions about the number of horses with which they plough, or the quantity of work done in the day in what they call coire, that is, co-partnership; in all which, if they can catch any advantage, they seldom fail of seizing on, and tenaciously holding, whatever they may in this way acquire. These are some of the evil consequences of co-partnerships, which cause the same dispositions to extend to their dealings in fairs and markets, as well as their transactions with their neighbours at home; and they are highly pleased with any success they may have in this way, though it be the reward of cunning and falsehood, as if lying were no sin, and fraud no crime. Many of these ill effects might be prevented, by landlords setting their lands to individual tenants instead of co-partners.

But what is a still more fertile source of the wickedness and misery of this class of society is the violation of the Sabbath. The respect due to this day, they believe is at an end, and every regard for it is laid aside, as soon as their public prayers are over; and as they are not obliged to work, (though many of them make no difference between the Sabbath and any other day of the week,) they, as a matter of course, dedicate the remainder of it to ball-playing, hurling, and dancing, &c. These dances are called

cakes, on account of a large cake, of eighteen or twenty inches diameter, which is laid on a circular board, of nearly similar breadth, elevated on a pole six or eight feet high, or, not unfrequently, on a churn-dash. In the spring and summer this cake is ornamented with garlands of the flowers of the season, and in the autumn crowned with apples fancifully ranged. When the dance was at an end, this cake had in early days been usually given to the best female dancer, to be divided by her, as she thought fit, among the company; and the judgment was generally given, not in favour of the most graceful dancer, but of her who held out longest. But this mode of deciding who is to gain the cake, has been changed for one less conducive to emulation in the exercise of such dances as the peasantry indulge in, while it is productive of greater immoralities than were originally attendant on those meetings; for the young fellow, who has procured money enough for the occasion, takes down the cake, at any time of the evening he thinks fit, throws it into the lap of any girl he chooses to mark as his favourite, carries her and the cake into the public-house contiguous to which these dances are always held, where he treats the company, after dividing the cake and getting as many to join him as the strength of purse, inclination for drinking, and other sports or vices have attractions for; these spend the night in carousing to intoxication, and all the consequences of such untroubled dissipation. This cake, it should be observed, is usually provided by a person who sells beer or spirits near the place of assembling, whether licensed or not, to whose sole benefit the assemblage redounds before the merry party separates. At these the young of both sexes meet in vast multitudes, and

they cannot assemble at such places without some expenses, which the earnings of the day labourer, or apprentice, or journeyman, are not adequate to defray; hence arise pilferings from the parents and masters of those who frequent those assemblages, (and there are few of the lower classes who do not;) and, escaping with impunity, through the lenity of a parent or master, from the punishment due to this theft, the young transgressor is encouraged to advance a step farther, by stealing from his neighbour what he may privately sell to receivers, who are too ready to purchase stolen goods at an under value; and thus encouraged, he proceeds from small things to greater thefts, and from one step to another, till highway robbery, burglary, and all other outrages on society are the consequence.

The production of illegitimate children and murdering the same, are some of the lamentable consequences which flow from such Sunday meetings. But these assemblies are also used as favourable opportunities of propagating rebellious principles and a most fertile source and continued stream of sedition, at which combinations are entered into, plans laid for midnight depredations, and societies formed, and the associates trained to such devices as are productive of all the misery that is entailed on those who frequent them, by the loss of their time, in executing by night the secret designs of carders, threshers, and other nocturnal disturbers of the public peace, to the perpetration of which they are sworn at such places, and by which they are rendered incapable of attending to the business of their trades or labour in the day. Thus the day, begun with prayer, is ended in every species of criminal gratification, en-

tailing misery on a spurious race through many successive generations, and bringing down the penalty of the second commandment, as “the sins of the fathers” are thus visibly “visited on their children.”

Though there are some who, looking no farther than the simple act of dancing round a pole on those occasions, are pleased to call it an innocent amusement, which ought not to be disturbed; yet will any one look into the decalogue, which orders that day to be kept holy, and say so? Will any one say that this is the way “to keep it holy?” Will any one, who considers the consequences of such assemblages, so far deceive himself and others, by calling them innocent, while they are the baneful source of such vices as flow from them, ramified into numerous branches of moral turpitude and political evil?

Whether these do not produce distress, poverty, and want, may easily be understood; and whether some means of preventing them should not be used before the condition of this class of the people can be made so comfortable as, in the absence of such assemblages with their attendant consequences, it might be, if that day were spent in moral and religious exercises, appears too obvious to require any arguments to convince an unprejudiced person who considers the subject.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

DENOMINATIONS OF THE PARISH IN THE VESTRY-BOOK.

	Irish acres.
Clobowen, Owen's retreat, or river recess,	757
Newtown, Meaning obvious,	165
and	
Beolnamulla, Summit's pass,	80
Cloonakilla, Church recess,	343
Ronskagh, Moorland,	58
Bonaribha, Bottom of rough grass,	374
Monksland, Meaning obvious,	95
Belough, The pass, or high way,	30
Cushelagh, Near, or at foot of the house,	100
Cornamanach, Monks' mansion,	60
Cartron, A quarter,	183
PLOUGHLANDS,	

N.B. These quantities differ from the returns in the County-Book, which is not peculiar to this parish, the latter being generally less, as in this instance.

No. 2.

POPULATION.*

Houses.	Inhabited by Families.	Contain.	Families chiefly employed in agriculture	Families chiefly employed in trades.	Families not in the foregoing classes.	Houses building, and not inhabited.
886	926	Males 2484 Females 2706	722	195	9	58
		Total 5190				
		Military about } 2000				
		7190				

* This is the return made to the constables for taking a census, under the statute, which, though the writer has taken much pains to obtain an accurate return, is more correct than his own, the peasantry having concealed their numbers, from a foolish apprehension of a pole tax.

No. 3.

EXTRACT FROM PARISH REGISTER.—ALL IN THE CHURCH.

Year.	Marriages.	Baptisms.*		Deaths.
		Males.	Females.	
1804	5	17	17	Cannot be ascertained, as all are buried in the adjoining parish.
1805	6	11	19	
1806	14	6	8	
1807	8	10	6	
1808	14	10	9	
1809	13	9	10	
1810	4	11	11	
1811	5	8	7	
1812	13	9	2	
1813	21	14	9	
1814	24	8	8	

* The duties attended by the garrison chaplain are not inserted, which accounts for the number of baptisms being so few.

No. 4.

TRADES.

Masons	..	20	Apothecaries	..	2
Carpenters	..	45	Publicans	..	33
Shoemakers	..	70	Bakers, beside many smaller ones	}	9
Pensioners	..	45	Butchers	..	32
Tailors	..	16	Printer†	..	1
Smiths	..	40	Chandlers	..	2
Nailors	..	17	Glaziers	..	2
Tinworkers	..	5	Watchmakers	..	2

† Who sends out a weekly journal, under the title of *The Athlone Herald*.

No. 5.

RATES OF TUITION.

				£	s.	d.
For Latin and Greek	(in one school)	per quarter		1	2	9
Ditto	Ditto	(in another)	..	2	5	6
ENGLISH.						
Spelling and Reading	..	..		0	3	3
Writing	..	..		0	4	4
Arithmetic, in proportion to the advancement and difficulty of rules			} from 5s. 5d. to	10	10	
Mathematics	..	..		1	2	9

No. 6.

PRICES OF CORN, &c. PER BARREL.

Years.	Wheat, per 20 stone.	Barley, per 16 stone.	Oats, per 14 stone.	Potatoes, per stone.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1812	3 0 0	0 19 6	0 11 8	0 0 5
1813	3 0 0	1 2 6	0 12 0	0 0 5
1814	1 12 0	1 3 6	0 9 0	0 0 4

No. 7.

PRICES OF PROVISIONS.

Years.	Beef, per pound.	Mutton, per pound.	Pork, per pound.	Bacon, per pound.	Fowl, per couple.
	d. d.	d. d.	d. d.	d. d.	s. d. s. d.
1812	4½ to 7½	4 to 8	3½ to 5½	7 to 8	1 8 to 2 0
1813	4½ to 6½	6 to 7½	6½ to 6½	11 to 13	1 8 to 2 0
1814	4 to 8½	6 to 8	3½ to 6½	11 to 13	1 8 to 2 0
Years.	Geese, each.	Turkies, each.	Flour, per stone.	Oatmeal, per stone.	Milk, per quart.
	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	d. d.
1812	2 0 to 2 4	2 0 to 2 4	4 2 to 6 6	2 8½ to 4 0	2 to 2
1813	2 0 to 2 4	2 0 to 2 4	3 6 to 5 10	3 4½ to 3 4½	2 to 2
1814	2 0 to 2 4	2 0 to 2 4	3 0 to 3 10	1 6 to 1 10	2 to 2

No. 8.

STOCK.

Horses	..	..	195
Cows	..	..	595
Sheep	..	..	13

No. IV.

PARISH OF

BALLYVOORNEY,

(Diocese of Cloyne, and County of Cork.)

BY THE REV. BASIL ORPEN, RECTOR AND VICAR.

I. *The Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

THE ancient name of this parish, now called Bally-
voorney, was Kiel-blaphar, probably derived from Name and
etymology.
“ Kill,” signifying, in the Irish language, a burying-
place, and “ Blaphor,” beauty. Its modern appellation,
Ballyvoorney, may be traced from “ Bally,” a town or
village, and “ Moorney,” the name of a man, who had
great influence and possessed a large and extensive
tract in the parish ; or more probably from “ Voornea,”
which signifies beloved ; so that from the latter deri-
vation it may be aptly enough translated into the
English language, the town of the beloved.* It is Situation.
situated in the barony of West Muskerry, county of
Cork, and diocese of Cloyne ; being bounded on the Boundaries
west and north by the parishes of Kilgarvan and

* Both Smith and Archdall join in giving the latter of these deriva-
tions to the name of this parish. The former of these authors states,
that it had been anciently called Husneagh, Borneagh, and Burneagh.
See Smith's Cork, v. 1. p. 193. and Monast. Hib. p. 57.—ED.

Glanflesk in the county of Kerry ; on the east by that of Clondrohid, and on the south by the parishes of Killnemartera and Inchigeelah, sometimes called Eveleary, the former belonging to the diocese of Cloyne and the latter to that of Cork.

- River.** The river Sullane rises in this parish, in the mountains bordering on the county of Kerry, runs through its longitudinal or greatest extent, keeps an easterly direction or course through the parish of Clondrohid to the town of Macroom, flows about a mile farther, keeping the same easterly direction, and then disembogues itself and is lost in the river Lee. The arable, meadow and pasture land comprehend about a third part of the parish ; the remainder consists of
- Mountains.** bog and mountain. The mountains are Mallaghannuss, Reanapuble, and Jouilnenummerah, some parts of which are good for pasture, and some are heathy
- Bogs.** and almost barren. There are a great number of bogs at Derreenallin and Milleen's Rath. Timber is found in them from two to twelve feet deep ; the kinds most usually raised are deal, oak, and yew.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

This parish does not furnish any matter for observation under this head.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

- Bridge.** There are no public buildings here, except one bridge, built about forty years ago ; it is in very bad
- Roads.** repair. The roads are only two ; one leading from the city of Cork through Macroom to Kenmare and Nedeem, and another leading through the parish of Glanflesk to Killarney.

IV. Ancient Buildings, &c.

The ruins of an old church, dedicated to St. Gob- Ruins.
nate, are to be seen here. Who this saint was, is not
accurately determined ; some even question her ex-
istence. Tradition states that she was the daughter
of O'Connor Sligo, and had been made abbess of a
nunnery of regular canonesses here by St. Abban,
who, after a very protracted life, died in the year of
Christ 650. The church, which is now wholly a
ruin, was 104 feet long by 24 broad, and had a steeple
standing at the time that Smith wrote his account of
this county. Near the altar is the tomb of the O'He- Monument.
relehys or O'Hierleys, the former proprietors of this
tract. The castle, whose site is now known only by Castle.
a rude heap of stones, stood on the north side of the
Sullane.

V. Present & Former State of Population, Food, &c.

The number of families in the parish amounts to Population
488, all Roman Catholic. By allowing six to each fa-
mily, the entire population will amount to 2928 souls.
Their situation as to wealth is very indifferent ; a
great number of the natives are compelled, for want
of employment at home, to go to Cork, and beyond
it, to the richer parts of the county, at certain times
of the year, to procure work and earn a little money
to clothe themselves, their wives and children. It
need scarcely be added, that their food, appearance,
and mode of living, are equally poor and scanty. In Longevity.
stature they are tall and robust, and they generally
live to an advanced age.

VI. *Genius and Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.*

Patron. The patron saint of this parish is called St. Abigail. The day appointed to be held in honor of her memory is the 11th of February, on which day a vast concourse of people, as well from the neighbouring as from very distant parts of the county, assemble to perform their religious, or rather, their superstitious rounds; they also meet here on Whitsunday and the day following, to perform the same silly and absurd ceremonies. There are traditionary reports that many have received great benefit from the prayers and orisons offered at these times to the patron, but without the smallest foundation. Indeed such meetings ought to be discountenanced by every religious and moral person, as they generally terminate in drunkenness and bloodshed. Irish is the language most generally spoken; very few speak English.

Language.

VII. *The Education & Employment of Children, &c.*

Schools. The children here are very indifferently educated. However, the present principal proprietor of the parish, Sir Nicholas C. Colthurst, much to his credit, established two schools on his estate, one for boys, and the other for girls. The number of boys that attend is about 100, but in winter the number is much diminished. In consequence of the support given by Sir Nicholas, the rates are so low as 2s. 6d. per quarter. He pays £20 per annum to both schools. The boys are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic. The girls, in number about fifty, are taught reading, writing, and plain-work.

Rates of tuition.

VIII. State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.

Ballyvoorney is united to no other parish. The Glebe, glebe, according to the Down Survey, lies immediately about the church, on which there is a house, now a sporting lodge, belonging to Sir Nicholas Conway Colthurst: it is universally believed that it was usurped by one of his ancestors, and part of a barren unproductive mountain, called Reanapuble, not worth 1*d.* per acre, given in lieu of the good glebe. Sir Nicholas, the present proprietor of the estate, seems to be a young gentleman of a generous and enlarged mind, and probably will, upon being shewn the map of the glebe out of the Down Survey, yield back a property to which he can have no legal title.

The produce of tythes in this parish consists of Tythes, potatoes, oats, and hay. The land is too poor and barren to yield wheat and barley. The inhabitants do not wish to pay half the value for them. Were it not for the interference of Sir Nicholas Colthurst, the rector's revenues would be but very trifling.

IX. Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.

The mode of tilling the land is by ploughing, and sometimes grubbing it with spades. The first crop is Mode of agriculture generally potatoes. A custom hitherto prevailed amongst the inhabitants, of setting a second crop of the same, but that custom is now on the decline; having perceived its evil consequences, they now till their land in rotation, successively, with potatoes and oats, as the district produces neither wheat nor barley. This parish is under a very great inconve-

nience with respect to manure, lime being remote, and the roads leading into the parish bad and uneven. They raise great stocks of cattle throughout the parish; the mountains are contiguous thereto, to which they send them to graze in the summer time; they are on the low lands but a short time in the winter.

Chief proprietors.

The chief proprietor is Sir Nicholas Conway Colthurst, Bart. a mild, indulgent and protecting landlord, who is incessantly labouring to promote the welfare of his tenantry. He is also contributing to the interests of the public at large, by opening a new line of road from Macroom to Kenmare, by means of which it is presumed that the carriage of lime will be accomplished with greater ease and facility. The other chief proprietors' names are mentioned in the table of the townlands in the Appendix.

Value of land.

As for conjecturing the value of an acre on an average, it is quite absurd; suffice it to say, that some are good, more extremely bad; some acres may perhaps set at two pounds sterling; others are

Prices of labour.

scarcely worth any thing. The prices of labour here are unprecedented, owing to the decline of trade. Labourers are idle for the want of employment, and their families starving; and in fact, when labourers were well paid, they were obliged to go into the inland country, to earn their wages or hire. There being little demand for them here, they are now in a starving condition.

X. Trade, Manufactures, &c.

The points referred to in this section have been already answered in the negative.

XI. *Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.*

The following list presents the succession of in-^{Incum-}
cumbents, as they are to be found in the First Fruits' ^{bents.}
Records:

Bryan Roch, admiss. 4 Oct. 1637, Vicar. de Bally-
vorney, dioc. Clonen. 10s.

Johes. Earle, collat. 6 April, 1641, ad Vicar. de
Ballyvornny, 40s.

Richard. Brown, admiss. fuit 29 Oct. 1669, ad
Vicar. de Maclonrigh, Vicarias de Macrump & Bally-
vourney, 40s. ster. dioc. Corke & Clonen. in com.
Corke.

Thomas Ryder, clicus. in artib. magr. admissus
fuit 22 April, 1713, ad R. & V. de Ballyvourny, dioc.
Clonen. & com. Corke, vac. p. mortem natural. revdi.
Richard. Brown, clici ult. ibm. incumbent.

Wm. Spratt, Rec. & Vic. of Ballyvourny, 17 June,
1747.

Nich. Foster, R. Ballyvourney, V. same, 9 June,
1749.

Daniel Sandford, Chancellor. Church of St. Cole-
man, Cloyne, R. Clenere, V. same, V. Rogericalor,
R. Aghacross, R. Ballyvourney, R. Nohane, oth.
Templemolagy, 2 Jan. 1767.

Edward Synge Townsend, collated 28 June, 1784,
R. V. Ballyvourney, Cork, n. t.

Edward Delaney, A. B. coll. 7. Jan. 1789, R. V.
Ballyvourny, Cork.

Edward Synge Townsend, collated and instituted
29 Jan. 1793, R. V. Clondrohid, R. V. Ballyvourney,
n. t.

John Ryder, collated 30 July, 1801, R. Killinemer,
R. V. Ballyvourny.

Incumbents.

Joseph Donnett, col. 9 June, 1803, R. Ballyvourney, V. same, Cork, n. t.

Wm. Butler, coll. 24 Sept. 1807, vice Robt. Kirchoffer, who held the same for two years and a half, and vacated by cession, R. Ballyvourney, £1, V. same, £2, Cork.—Robert Kirchoffer is not returned for Ballyvourney.

Bazil Orpen, coll. 15 July, 1808, vice Wm. Butler, R. Ballyvourney, n. l. V. same, £2, n. l.

XII. *Suggestions for Improvement, and Means for meliorating the Condition of the People.*

This section deserves the greatest attention, as affecting the community at large. Any attempt to better the condition of the people should be strenuously encouraged by those possessed of the means, and would be received by a people oppressed and almost heart-broken by heavy rents and taxes, with that enthusiastic gratitude which characterizes the Irish nation. The landlords should come forward and minutely consider the means of their tenants, and set their land according to the times, and not expect the high rents they were accustomed to receive, when land in general is so low in price; for it is evident to any unprejudiced mind, that a tenant now, possessed of the same property that he had hitherto, when commodities were in great demand, cannot make the same rent of his farm; hence, it is absurd and oppressive to demand any more for it than its real value. Had the landlords come forward with such condescension and humanity, to mitigate the rigours of their poor tenants and diminish the sources of their misery, and also to make themselves acquainted with the means they possess of making up the rents, the

sinking spirits of their tenantry would be revived, and their industry and perseverance increased. And, seemingly, this mode of acting would be conducive to the interest of the proprietors, for tenants, driven to despair by unmerciful and oppressive landlords, commit great ravages on their farms, and let their houses go to ruin, often withholding possession until it is recovered from them by the strong arm of the law; thereby revenging their own wrongs on their masters, and causing them much expense in recovering their land by legal proceedings, in the mean time spoiling and injuring their farms, so that, when it is re-let, it is not worth the one-half of its former value, and the houses, for want of repairs, are not fit even for pig-sties. Is it not, then, more prudent to keep up the spirit of industry among the community, and not to over-rent the farms; and will not the landlords have more advantage by so acting, than in oppressing their tenants, and at last receiving land totally unfit for a cultivator? This evil would be in a great measure, if not entirely, remedied, if absentee landlords would return to their estates and reside upon them, by which means they would be eye-witnesses to the distresses they have occasioned, and must be entirely destitute of humanity if they would not endeavour to alleviate them.

TABLE OF TOWNLANDS IN BALLYVOORNEY.

No.	Name of Townland.	Derivation, and English Name.	Chief Proprietors.	Acres.	Houses.	Families.
1	Dirrylahan,	Broad oak or wood, from daire, oak or wood, and leathan or leaban, broad.	Sir N. C. Colthurst, Bt. M. P.	700	2	3
2	Fuhirees,	Not obvious.	Ditto.	780	7	9
3	Scrahaugann,	Poor little sod, from scrailin, the diminutive of sraith or sraith, a sod, and gann, poor.	Ditto.	300	6	6
4	Bardeenshe and	Little fairy guard, from bairdin, the diminutive of bard, a guard, and sigh or shee, a fairy.	Ditto.	660	7	7
5	Coomcluvane	Not ascertained.				
5	Inchenmore and	Great island, from inis, an island, and mor, great.	Ditto.	2200	10	12
	Myreens	Not ascertained.				
6	Somanagh and	Not ascertained.	Ditto.	2200	10	13
	Dirrincullen	Hollywood, from daire, a wood, and cuileann, bolly.				
	Gortyrabilly and	O'Reilly's garden or field, from gort, a cultivated field, and in Raghallaigh, the genitive case of ua Raghallaigh, in English, O'Reilly.	Ditto.	1300	15	17
7		Not ascertained.				
8	Dirrees,	Little garden of shrubs or bushes, from gortin, diminutive of gort, and scairte, genitive of scairt, a bush or shrub.	Ditto.	1100	16	18
	Gortynascarty and	Meaning obvious.				
9	Raths	Back of the road, from cul, a back or hinder part, and bothar or bohar, a road.	Ditto.	1400	21	26
	Coolavohir	Grey-back, from cul, back, and liath, grey.	Ditto.	900	26	26
10	Cooley and	Toother or Toher, a causeway.				
	Toher,	Little muddy place, from muirín, soft clay, mud, or mire, and beag or beg, little.	Ditto.	490	9	9
11	Moornechbeg,	Handsome little wood, from dairín, the diminutive of daire, a wood, and alluin or aluin, fair or handsome.	Ditto.	1100	11	12
12	Dirreenaling,					
				13130	140	158

TABLE OF TOWNLANDS IN BALLYVOORNEY, (CONTINUED.)

No.	Name of Townland.	Derivation, and English Name.	Chief Proprietors.	Acres.	Houses.	Families.
13	Dirrynasagart,	Priest's wood, from daire, a wood, and sagart, a priest.	Sir N. C. Colthurst, Bt. M. P.	1800	24	26
14	Sleavreagh,	Grey mountain, from sliabh or sleeve, a mountain, and riach, grey.	Ditto.	1000	20	20
15	Coomnaclohy,	The middle of the stones, from com the middle, and cloiche, gen. plur. of cloch, a stone.	Ditto.	1350	9	10
16	Coomaguire,	The middle of the caverns or caves, from com or cum, and cuire or guire, genitive plural of cuire, a cave or cavern.	Ditto.	500	2	3
17	Gurnatobrid,	Spring-field or spring-garden, from gort, a cultivated field, and tobraid, a spring-well.	Ditto.	860	22	22
18	Gortnacre,	Clay-field or garden, from gort, and cre, clay.	Ditto.	750	7	8
19	Shauacdown,	Pleasant lawn, from scanadh, happy, pleasant, and cluaine, a lawn or retired plain.	Ditto.	1400	15	16
20	East Rippaghs,	East rough district, from ribeach or ripeach, rough.		660	13	13
21	West Rippaghs,	West rough district, derived as above.		600	7	8
22	Rilleen,	Level field or plain—properly reidhlean.		170	5	6
23	Ballymuckeen,	Little pigstown, from baile, a town, and muicin, diminutive of muc, a pig.	Ditto.	1400	27	30
24	Toonlann,	Not ascertained.	Stephen House, Esq.	200	6	6
25	Coolnacaharagh,	The back of the chair, or city, from cul, a back, and cathair, a chair or city.	— Cox, Esq.	180	10	10
26	Coolavokig,	Goat's back, from cul, a back, and boc, a goat.	Wm. Leader, Esq.	480	38	40
27	Allawns.	Not ascertained.	— Cox, Esq.	230	10	10
28	Danginaasalagh,	The dirty fortress, or fortress of dirt, from dain-gain, a strong place, and salach, dirty.	— Whittings, Esqrs.	300	15	15
29	Knuckanure,	Green hillock, from cnockan, a hillock, and ur, green, fresh.	Ditto.	350	30	35
30	West Rahuna,	Not ascertained.	— Cox, Esq.	100	5	5
31	East Rahuna,	Not ascertained.	W. J. Baldwin, Esq.	150	12	12
			Total	25530	417	453

No. V.

PARISH OF

C A R N E,

(Diocese of Ferns, and County of Wexford.)

BY THE REV. RICHARD BEVAN, INCUMBENT.

I. *The Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

Name.	C ARNE appears to be the name this parish has always had, having been given most probably from its stony and rocky nature, as that term, in the Irish
Situation.	language, signifies a stone. It is situated in the county of Wexford, barony of Forth, and diocese of Ferns: it is of a peninsular form, and terminates in one of the most eastern points of Ireland, called
Boundaries	Carnesore Point, about the 52° N. lat. being bounded on the south and east by St. George's Channel, or Irish Sea, on the west by the Lady's Island Lough, anciently called Lough Togher, which at times has a communication with the sea, but it is generally obstructed by sand, thrown up by the tide in stormy weather, and on the north by the Lady's Island
Extent.	Parish. Its length, from north to south, is about
Contents.	three miles, and its breadth two. It contains about 1000 acres, of which 700 only are arable, the remainder being sand-banks and rocky grounds, yet

affording grass for sheep and other cattle. Each farmer generally supplies himself with hay produced from forced grass, as there is very little old meadow ground. He also feeds his milch cows and horses with the same kind of food during the summer months.

There are no rivers whatever in Carne, or loughs, Lake. except that already mentioned, on the western boundary. There are two small creeks at Nethertown Creeks. and Carna, very convenient and useful to the fishers of lobster and herring. The surface is nearly a flat, Hill. save a small rising ground, called the hill of Chour, situated on the south-west point of the parish. Carne has no bogs; but there is one small moor which is now draining by the proprietor, A. Howlin, Esq. It is called the Moor of Ballask. In fine the whole parish has a very naked appearance, as there is not one forest tree to be seen in it.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

This parish contains neither mines nor minerals of any kind, nor any natural productions of an extraordinary nature.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

This parish contains five villages, named Ballygar- Villages. row, Ballask, Churchtown, Nethertown, and Ring, but no town of any size.

The old mansion-house of the Palliser family, de- Gentle-
nominated Castletown, is situated in the middle of men's Seats

the parish, about a quarter of a mile to the west, off the main road. It is now in possession of government, for the purpose of accommodating some officers of revenue on this coast. The house of Castle Paliser, also, the seat of the Misses Howlin, is situated near one of the roads that branch towards the east; and Carna House, the residence of Abraham Howlin, Esq., situated at the extremity of this road, on the beach. The number of houses within this parish, of every description, is ninety-six, among which there is not one publican's, nor one uninhabited.

The sea view from Carne is most beautiful, as it takes in St. George's Channel, from the Saltee Islands to several miles north of Tuscar, and this being the general track of ships coming from all parts of the world to Liverpool and Dublin, every day affords a pleasing variety to the eye, of vessels of all sizes passing to and fro. In winter the appearance of this parish is very naked, from the want of trees; but in summer and autumn the rich crops of barley and beans, that seem nearly to cover the whole surface, render it an object most pleasing and agreeable.

Roads.

The road leading from Carnesore Point to Wexford nearly divides the parish into two equal parts, from which there are three that branch off and run eastward to the sea shore, and one westward to Lough Togher.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

Monastic Ruin.

There is a ruin of a very ancient Chapel, called St. Vaughs, in a burying-ground very near Carne-

sore Point, where none but the bodies of persons drowned, in consequence of shipwrecks, have been interred for these many years. From its very rude architecture, it appears to be of great antiquity. There is also a very fine old castle, between seventy and eighty feet in height, in high preservation, standing upon the property of the Waddy family, called the Castle of Cloeast. It, with many of like appearance, in this and the adjoining baronies, was built by the first English settlers in those parts in the reign of Henry II. No monuments or inscriptions of any sort are to be found here. Ruined Castle.

V. *Present & Former State of Population, Food, Fuel, &c.*

The number of inhabitants in Carne is exactly 640, of which 326 are males, and 314 females. Among those, there are only twenty-seven Protestants; the rest are Roman Catholics. There has been a considerable increase, within these last twenty years, in the population of the parish, owing to the small farms into which it is divided, and that the young men never enlist either in the army or in the militia. The peasantry of Carne live uncommonly well in general; their breakfast consists of either barley bread and milk, or oatmeal stirabout and milk; very rarely are potatoes used at this meal: at dinner they have bacon or pork twice a week, and butter or herrings for the remainder of it. Their fuel is produced mostly from bean stalks and furze, to which they add a little English coal, brought from Wexford, where it is imported. Indeed the only inconvenience felt here is in this article of life, for the parish is ten miles from that town. Population Food. Fuel.

Dress. In respect of complexion and clothing, the general appearance of the people of this parish is of the best and most comfortable kind. And in their features they bear a strong resemblance to the South Welsh, some of whose names they also have among them, thereby shewing that their origin is the same. The

Wealth. wealth and independence of the inhabitants of Carne may be inferred from there being but three paupers, who actually stand in need of support in their little

Mendicity. cabins, and these are aged females. But we are most abundantly supplied with itinerant beggars from other parts of the kingdom, owing as well to our being in the neighbourhood of St. Mary's Island, commonly called the Lady's Island, a place of great devotion and pilgrimage, as to the means in this parish of administering relief to the poor and wretched.

Employment. Agriculture is the chief business of the inhabitants; but at the proper seasons some are employed in the lobster and herring fishery. The produce of the former is sent coastwise to Dublin, that of the latter is sold either in the parish or in the town of Wexford. The women work in seed time and harvest on the farms, which in general consist of from eight to twelve acres; but at other times are occupied in

Manufactures. coarse manufactures of woollen and linen cloths for their own clothing.

Health. They keep their habitations very clean and neat within, which without have every mark of comfort, being well built, partly of stone and partly of mud, and covered thickly with barley straw, in the nicest mode of thatching. They are also very clean in their persons, and consequently enjoy with their families

very good health in general. The ague sometimes visits this parish, but rarely proves fatal to any of its inhabitants.

The instances of longevity have been very few ^{Longevity.} since the incumbency of the present rector. James Scallan, of Shilmore, said to have been above one hundred years of age, died in the winter of 1813, and Philip Wall, of Ballysheen, now ninety-five, is alive and well, retaining all his faculties in a surprising degree, walks erect, and is able to attend his corn-mill every day. Many of the inhabitants have passed their seventieth year.

VI. *The Genius & Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.*

The genius of the peasantry of Carne inclines to ^{Genius and Disposition.} industry, sobriety, peace, and brotherly love: they are united like one family. Quarrels are never heard of, either at home or abroad. Though the present rector has had the parish for sixteen years, he has never heard, during that time, that a complaint was made before a magistrate by any individual for abuse, received in his person by assault or battery, from an inhabitant of Carne; and in civil matters they are strictly observant also of their duties. Here there has been, during the same space of time, no impounding or sale of cattle for rent, nor has the incumbent had occasion to bring any of the parishioners into court, by civil bill process, for non-payment of any of his rights.

They formerly spoke a dialect of the Saxon lan- ^{Language.} guage, their vernacular or mother tongue, which is

now very much corrupted by the intermixture of English words. The "Irish language" is not spoken or known either in this parish or barony, or in the neighbouring barony of Bargy. These are called the English baronies by all the other parts of this county, as if they were completely distinct countries.

Customs.

They retain the old custom of dressing the graves of their departed relations with flowers and evergreens, at stated times in the year, over which they kneel and pray for some time. They also regularly go to bed after their dinner in the summer season and sleep for two hours; but for this, they work to a very late hour in the evening.

Patron.

They have two patron days in the year, the 17th of February and Trinity Sunday, their patron saint is St. Finton; at those times all their friends, within ten miles around, are invited to dinner, and the day is spent in great mirth and innocent enjoyment.

VII. *The Education and Employment of Children, &c.*

Schools.

There is one school, not endowed, where almost every child, from five years old and upwards, goes for instruction in spelling, reading, writing, and arithmetic, and some are also taught the Latin classics.

Rates of tuition.

The quarterly salary for tuition is rated according to what the child is learning—for spelling, one shilling per quarter; for reading, two shillings; and for writing and figures, three shillings. At this school (the master of which is James Fortune, of the Roman Catholic religion, a man of very correct morals) are to be seen between 70 and 80 children of both sexes in the summer season, all decently clothed.

The incumbent has appointed a Protestant school-master ; but he has very little prospect of employment, as the Protestant children are very few. There are no public libraries, Irish MSS. nor any thing of a similar nature.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

This parish, which is not united to any other, is Advowson. in the patronage of the bishop of Ferns, and the incumbent is both rector and vicar. The Protestant Church. church is the only place of worship ; the Roman Catholics have their chapel in the neighbouring parish of St. Mary's Island, where also their priest resides. There are two glebes, one of eight acres Glebe. and three quarters, upon which, in the year 1802, the present rector built a glebe-house, with suitable offices, where he resides constantly since September 1805 ; the other, of three acres, is in the possession of the impropiator of the adjoining parish of St. Mary's Island : but how it has fallen into his and his tenants' hands cannot now satisfactorily be discovered. The Down Survey points it out most clearly on the lands of Bun-Carrig.

The incumbent has a right, as rector and vicar, to Tythes. the tithes of wheat, barley, beans, oats, potatoes, hay, flax, lambs, and wool ; but he never allows his proctor to value more than the fifteenth of each of these ; and upon this mode of valuation, the parishioners came to an agreement with him for several years, five of which have elapsed, very much to their mutual satisfaction ; they paying with great good humour, and

he feeling no trouble or disappointment. Here there are no parochial funds nor records.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

Mode of agriculture The agriculture of this parish varies little from that practised many years ago, except in some places, where they now drill potatoes. The tillage grounds are in many places so interspersed with large stones, that it is a matter of great surprise to strangers, that the plough can be used at all in them. The soil is in general of the very best kind, and the advantage of the manures, marl and sea-weed, is very great; the crops therefore seldom fail to be good, though the lands are almost always in tillage. Nay, there are some grounds in this parish that the oldest person, now living in it, does not remember to have seen under pasture or meadow, but always under corn beans, or potatoes. The glebe on which the incumbent resides was one of this description prior to his coming to the parish.

Soil.

Stocks of Cattle. As there are annually not less than 500 acres in tillage, the number of cattle must be small. Two horses and two cows generally constitute the stock on these small farms under twelve acres. To those above that size, there are three and sometimes four horses, but seldom more cows. The parish abounds with pigs, as every man, let his farm be ever so small, keeps a brood sow, which generally farrows twice a year, producing from six to ten young ones each time. This stock has sold at a very high rate in those late years, and consequently added considerably to the wealth of Carne.

Beans and barley constitute the chief crops. The Crops. former are sold in Wexford for exportation, mostly to Liverpool; and the latter also is sold there, to be either malted or sent to Dublin in its raw state. The bean crop when it succeeds to the farmer's wishes, is the most profitable. The proprietors are three, Proprietors Sir Hugh Palliser, Joshua Nunn, and Abraham Howlin, Esqrs. The first is an absentee, the second lives adjoining, and the third is resident. They have not introduced any new implements of husbandry. Lands in the parish that have been reset within these Rents. last eight years, have brought from two to five pounds per acre in general. The great demand for barley and beans, the chief grains of the parish, during the late war, has been the cause of this extraordinary rise. A labourer, who is constantly employed, re- Wages of ceives thirteen pence per diem during the long days, Labour. and ten pence in the short days; but if called in occasionally, his hire is from sixteen to twenty pence. Indeed there are very few in this parish whose bread depends solely on casual employment. The annual wages for men servants for farmers are from six to eight guineas.

X. *Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.*

No trade is carried on here, and the only manu- Manufactures are those of coarse linen and woollen cloths for home consumption, and kelp in a small quantity. Kelp. The amount of the latter, communibus annis, may be about ten tons; the price of which, at market, has been between four and five pounds per ton previously to the late American war; it has since risen to eight pounds. The number of people employed is small,

as may be inferred from the quantity produced. This is manufactured on the eastern shore, and only every second year.

XI. Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.

There are no natural curiosities in this parish, neither is there any account of any eminent men who may have belonged to it.

The following list of the Incumbents of Carne, has been extracted from the First Fruits' records.

Adam Waller, institut. primo April, 1639, ad vicar. de Carne, £8, 11s. 9d.

Phineas Waller, collat. fuit 2^o. die Maij, 1668, ad thesaurar. eccl. cathed. sti. edani Ffernien. £32, 14s. 8d. necnon in vicar. de Carne, in com. Wexford, & dioce. Ffernien. £11, 9s.

Johes. Barrington, cler. in artib. magr. collat. fuit 9^o. die April, 1685, in thesauriat. Ffernien, £32, 14s. 8d. & ad vic. de Carne, £11, 9s. 0d.

Willus Williams, cler. in art. magr. collat. & installat. fuit 20^o. die April. 1686, thesauriat. Ffernien. & vicar. de Carne, com. Wexf. £24, 14s. in a. £11, 9s. in h.

James Hastings, A. M. r. Carne, v. same, 29 Dec. 1757, Wexford, £11, 9s.

Rob. Wooldridge, A. M. collated 27 Aug. 1776, r. Carne, v. same.

Sam. Heydon, collated 14 Aug. 1792, r. & v. Carne, Wexford.

Richard Bevan, A. B. collated 10 Sept. 1798, r. v. same, Wexford, £11, 9s.

XII. *Suggestions for Improvement, and means for meliorating the condition of the People.*

The inhabitants of Carne have ever been remarkable for living so comfortably and happy, that they stand in need of very little assistance in this respect. They might, however, be rendered more wealthy, if a small quay was built either at the Creek of Nether-town, or that of Carna, that might afford protection and safety to the small craft used in their lobster and herring fisheries.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

VALUE OF STOCK, &c.

The value of the stock of this parish is inconsiderable, excepting that of pigs, which of late years must have produced not less than three hundred pounds per annum, exclusive of supplying the table of the farmer. The annual produce of the parish may be fairly estimated at five thousand pounds.

No. 2.

TOWNLANDS IN CARNE, &c.

NAME.	DERIVATION.
Buncarrig	Rock-foot, from 'Bun,' a sole, bottom, foundation, and 'carraig,' a rock.
Ballyfane,	Sloping-town, from 'Baile,' a town, or townland, and 'faoin,' sloping.
Ballygarrow,	Rough-town, or coarse townland, from 'garbh,' rough, and 'Baile,' a town.
Ballytra,	Strand-town.
Ballask,	The cripple's road, from 'Ball,' an old word for 'Bealach,' a way, and 'Losc,' a cripple.
Bush,	Obvious.
Bunarge,	Milk-stock, from 'Bun,' a stock, root, foundation, and 'Airge,' genitive case of 'Arg,' milk.
Barnawheel,	Naked-gap, from 'Bearna,' a gap, and 'mhaoil,' or as pronounced, 'weel,' bald, naked.
Ballysheen,	Stormtown, from 'Baile,' a town, and 'Sion,' pronounced 'Sheen,' storm, tempest.
Cloeast,	Not ascertained.
Chour,	Not ascertained.
Carna,	Heaps.
Churchtown,	Obvious.
Castletown,	Obvious.
Cowels,	Obvious.
Green in Ring,	Obvious.
Glebelands,	Obvious.
Hilltown,	Obvious.
Logansherd,	Obvious.
Moortown,	Obvious.
Nethertown.	Obvious.
Nineteen Acres,	Obvious.
Shilmore,	Great-seed, from 'Siol,' seed, and 'mor,' great.
St. Vaught,	Obvious.
Summertown,	Obvious.
Pullingtown,	Obvious.
Ringsheran,	Obvious.
Ring,	Obvious.
Three Acres,	Obvious.

M A P
of the PARISH of
ERRIGALKEROGE
in the
County of Tyrone



Ja^s Wyld. del^t

No. VI.

PARISH OF

ERRIGALL-KEROGE,

(Diocese of Armagh, and County of Tyrone.)

BY THE REV. JOHN GROVES.

I. *Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

IN the grant of the advowson of this parish, by Name. King James I., to Sir Thomas Ridgeway, who was then Treasurer at War for Ireland, and afterwards Lord Londonderry, the name is spelled, Errigall-keroge. It has since been also called Ballinasaggart, from the name of the townland in which the present church stands. By either of these names it is always known among the gentlemen and clergy of the country, but the farmers and country people universally call it Errigall-kieran, and really greater appearance of propriety is in their favour. Tradition says, that the former church, the ruins of which yet remain, was built by St. Kieran; while the other epithet, Keroge, seems to have no relation to any thing ecclesiastical; it signifies that species of beetle which is vulgarly called a black clock. But the authority of a record ought to be preferred to tradition, however specious. The former part of the name is the

Irish for a relic, and the additional part seems to have been put to it to distinguish this parish from the adjoining parish of Errigall-treugh, in the county of Monaghan.

- Situation.** The parish of Errigall-keroge is situated wholly in the county of Tyrone, and barony of Clogher. It belongs to the diocese of Armagh; but the advowson, and right of presentation, is the property of John Corry Moutray, of Favour Royal, Esq. It is a rectory and vicarage, unconnected with any other benefice.
- Extent.** As to its topographical circumstances, the shape nearly resembles a lozenge; its longer dimension extending, north and south, above seven miles, and the shorter, from east to west, about four.
- Contents.** By a return, made purposely for this survey, it appears, that it contains 6181 Irish acres, of arable, meadow, and pasture; and 3716 of profitable mountain. This latter, in some instances, is held by itself; but, in most cases, the tenant holds a portion of mountain attached to his farm. The whole profitable part, therefore, amounts to 9897 acres yielding rent; but there are also large tracts of unprofitable mountain, so that Errigall-keroge may be said to contain from
- Boundaries** 10,500 to 11,000 acres of ground. On the north, it is separated from the parish of Termonmaguirk by a branch of that stream, which, passing through Omagh, and receiving others in its course, forms the river Strule. On the west, it is separated, generally, by an imaginary line from Cloghermy and Clogher. On the south, the river Blackwater divides it from Errigall-treugh. One half of the eastern side is separated from Aghalow by a considerable stream, which falls into the Blackwater, but is known by no name,

except that of the townlands through which it passes; the rest of this side adjoins the parish of Killeshill, from which it is separated only by a line. The church is situated in $54^{\circ} 23'$ north latitude, and in $7^{\circ} 22'$ longitude west of London. Several streams intersect the parish, which serve to turn mills, but are not otherwise deserving of notice. Indeed, they are not distinguished by names, except occasionally, from the places through which they flow. There are some pools among the mountains, but the only piece of water, that deserves the name of a lake, is *Lake*. Martray Lough, on the east side, through the middle of which runs the mearing next Aghalow.

Errigall-keroge is divided among three manors, *Divisions*. but does not contain any one entirely. The church lands, or, as they are called, The Nine Towns of Errigall, belong to the manor of Donoughmore. This manor holds pleas to a considerable amount: £100 is generally said to be the highest sum, but there is reason to believe that it is unlimited. The townlands to the south of these compose part of the manor of Portclare or Ballykirgir, as it is named in the charter of James the First, by which it was erected. It is now known by the name of Ballymackley; but why, or when, the name was thus changed, no account can be given. The northern townlands all belong to the manor of Moynah, otherwise Moyenner, or Ballygalin, as it is named in Pynnar's Survey. It is now called Ballygawley, from the court being usually held in that town. The extent of the jurisdiction of these two last is limited to forty shillings. The benefit of such courts to the country is very questionable, since the recovery of

Divisions. small debts has been removed from the assizes to the quarter sessions, and the demands for wages can be determined by two Magistrates. The little legal information generally possessed by the person who sits as judge, and the inferior rank of those who attend as jurors, induce a probability, that erroneous decisions must occur much oftener than could be wished. The sum in question is always small in itself, but it is considerable to the poor man whose right is concerned in the decision. Beside, it seems more consistent with the spirit of national jurisprudence, that all the branches, into which its operations are divided, should proceed as directly as possible from the root.

These two manors originally composed two grants of forfeited lands, made early in the reign of King James the First; and for some time they continued entire. That of Moinah, or Ballygawley, was granted to Wm. Turvin, of whom no more than the name is known; how it passed from him to Sir Gerard Lowther, to whom it belonged when Pynnar made his survey, cannot be ascertained. There was then in Ballygawley no more than a bawn of earth and stone, with two flankers eight feet high. It was rented by a Mr. Pringle, who made a return of twenty tenants, but without particularising their holdings. From Sir Gerard Lowther, or his representatives, the manor seems to have passed to Hugh Hamilton, Lord Baron of Genawley, or Glenally, as the title is sometimes spelled; who is found purchasing, in the year 1672, the adjoining lands of Tullynavern. His only son dying a minor, his two daughters inherited the property. Upon a partition made, the barony of Finah, more usually called the Sixmilecross Estate, except

a very small part, fell to Arabella Susanna, the elder, Divisions. who married Sir John Magill. None of this part is in Errigall-keroge. The manor of Moinah, or the Ballygawley estate, together with the small portion above-mentioned, was allotted to Nichola Sophia, the younger daughter, who married Sir Tristram Beresford, by whom she had Marcus, Earl of Tyrone. She seems however to have retained a power over her own property; for we find the Ballygawley estate, soon afterwards, in the possession of General Gorges, who married her after the death of Sir Tristram. How far the lady at first favoured this gentleman's suit, cannot now be conjectured, but he seemed to think it necessary to make use of one of those stratagems which his profession had taught him, and which are said to be as justifiable in love as in war. Having, by the connivance of her maid, gained admittance into her bedchamber, he shewed himself, in his dressing gown and night-cap, at the window. Immediately the report of the general's good fortune flew abroad, and the fortress, thus invested and betrayed, surrendered upon honourable terms. The manor of Ballygawley thus passed into the Gorges family, and has since been divided, as may be seen in the Appendix.

The manor of Portclare was granted to Sir Wm. Ridgeway, already mentioned. From him it passed to Sir James Erskine, who, having only two daughters, this property was also divided between them. One of these ladies married a Mr. Richardson. What was her share lies entirely without the parish of Errigall-keroge, except two townlands, now belonging to Nathaniel Montgomery Moore, Esq. The other

Divisions. married also, and becoming a widow, without issue, was addressed by a gentleman of the name of Mou-tray. He having removed certain apprehensions of the widow, respecting the probability of their union not being blessed with offspring, by the birth of a natural son, received her hand, and the possession of her share of the manor of Portclare; which is still enjoyed by their descendants. The son above-mentioned became rector of this parish; but this branch has lately become extinct, by the death of the last female descendant in Italy. There is a striking resemblance between some of the early circumstances of these two estates; but the advantage on the side of Portclare is much the greater: it still remains in the family, with considerable additions, receiving improvement from the constant residence, and judicious management of its owner.

Surface. The whole face of the parish is irregular and uneven; there is very little level ground in it. In the southern part the hills are not high, nor steep, but gently undulating, and covered with cultivation. They are universally good land, particularly that part which extends from the old church towards the present, and from thence to the town of Ballygawley. Proceeding northward, the height of the hills increases; but still cultivation reaches to the summit of many of them. The northern part of the parish is entirely composed of mountains, whose flat tops consist of bog and heath; but in the hollows between them are to be found, occasionally, tracts of land equal to any of the southern parts. The vallies between these mountains have streams running through them, which, during the summer, form cascades not

unworthy the attention of those who are fond of picturesque scenery. The glen, in particular, called *Glen Todd's-leap*, exhibits a variety of wild views, while at every winding of the road the country below forms new landscapes; the rich cultivation of the lowlands forming a striking contrast to the wildness of the mountain. There is no wood in the parish, *Plantations* but in several places there are small plantations, which improve the appearance of the country very much.

We have some small tracts of bog in the southern *Bog* part, which, as yet, supply a sufficiency of fuel; and there is a great deal among the mountains, that makes much better firing, but it is difficult of access even to those living near it.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

No mines, or any of the minerals usually considered valuable, have been discovered in this parish. There is, however, plenty of limestone and freestone *Limestone* in almost every part of it. The limestone is blue, composed almost entirely of petrifications, and shews itself wherever the surface has been broken by the violence of the streams which run through the parish. The bed of that stream which forms the southern end of the eastern boundary is entirely limestone, except that in some places there appear large masses composed of a great variety of pebbles cemented together by a muddy-coloured substance, forming by their union a hard stone. In the lower part of that stream, *Petrifications* where it falls into the Blackwater, and in the adjoining part of that river, may be observed a great quan-

Petrifac-
tions.

tity of petrified shells. Very often the shell may be detached from the stone. They are universally of the same thin, delicate fabric with those which are found in fresh waters. Great numbers also of the root of the nymphæa, or water lily, may be found in a petrified state. Some are incorporated with the stone; others, in their stoney state, retain their original appearance, imbedded in the rock, and easily separable from it. These externally, and both kinds, upon being cut or broken, shew the cellular appearance of that root. There may be also found specimens of coralline substances; some affording the likeness of honey-combs, others more solid; the ends or the sides of the columns, or prisms, of which they are composed, may sometimes be traced. The want of such an acquaintance with mineralogy as would qualify for a more minute account of their appearances, and a wish to avoid a display of superficial information, prevents the writer from enlarging on a subject which he does not fully understand. There seems, however, to be but small scope for researches of that nature here. The discovery of coal has become a general object of research with country gentlemen, and accordingly it has been sought for here, but without any prospect of success.

Chalybeate
Springs.

There is a strong chalybeate spring in Garvaghy, which has been found little inferior to those in Germany. From its retired situation, and want of accommodation near it, little use has been made of it, under medical directions; and the report of cures effected at such places, upon invalids acting from their own opinions, or from the representations of friends, however probable, does not deserve much

attention. There is also frequently seen in bog-drains a red sediment, deposited by water flowing from small springs. This water usually gives some appearance of iron, by becoming more or less black upon any vegetable matter being put into it; and the sediment, collected by evaporation, sometimes adheres to the magnet.

In the parish of Aghalow, close to the stream which divides it from Errigall-keroge, where it crosses the high road from Aughnacloy to Augher, there is a sulphuric spring which resembles the Harrowgate water, except in the want of the purgative quality of the latter. With the addition of small quantities of Epsom salts, its effects have been found fully equal to those of that water, in cases where Harrowgate water is usually prescribed. It rises out of a limestone rock, from a chink, or cleft, in which bubbles are constantly seen bursting on the surface. The passage by which the superfluous water flows off is coated with pure sulphur. The country people frequently use this, with salutary effect, to wash old sores. The water in the well is very clear, but previously to rain becomes a little turbid. It strongly resembles the Lucan spa, near Dublin, both in taste and smell. The well is enclosed in a small house, built by an individual who had received benefit from the use of the water. The description of this spa is beyond the limits of this survey; but its being so contiguous, and not having been as yet described by any other writer, will perhaps apologise for the transgression.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

Village.

Excepting places of worship, there are no public buildings in Errigall. There is one village, that of Ballygawley, situated twelve miles south-east of Omagh, on the mail-coach road from Dublin to Derry. Under the encouragement this village has received from its present landlord, it has considerably improved; the population having materially increased within these latter years.

Ballygawley contains of inhabited houses—			
Cabins	...	...	61
Houses of one floor	...	...	59
Houses of two floors	...	...	20
			<hr/>
			140
Uninhabited; Cabins, 9; Houses of one floor, 2—			11
			<hr/>
Total,	...	...	151

By the returns made in 1813, the population of Ballygawley was 513 souls; and as, according to those returns, the proportion of inhabitants was nearly $5\frac{1}{2}$ to each house, the number of houses at that time must have been about 96. The inhabited houses having increased to 140, the population of this village, supposing the same proportion to continue, must be now above 700; making an increase of about 200 since that time.

Inn.

Beside lesser houses of entertainment, and too many whiskey shops, there is a good inn, kept very

neatly. A dispensary for providing the poor with medicines, and occasionally with attendance at their houses, is established. A brewery has been also established, which seems to be going on well. The only manufacture is a small one of gloves, which, from the goodness of the materials, and neatness of the workmanship, are in general demand throughout the neighbourhood, and are often sent to some distance. It is thought that the conductor of it could have work for more hands than he usually employs, but he seems contented with the regular consumption of what he makes.

Ballygawley is a post town, and has a weekly Town-market on Friday; but butcher's meat may be had much oftener. It has six fairs in the year; three Fairs. weeks before, and the same distance after, the first of May, August, and November, old style. In 1812, a linen market was established there every second week. For this purpose, premiums were given, and have since been continued, of fifteen shillings for the greatest quantity sold; ten for the next; and five for the third greatest quantity; as also five shillings for the best, and two and sixpence for the second best wrought piece. The quantity sold that year amounted to 9360 pieces, of 52 yards each; but the account of the sales was not kept with sufficient correctness to ascertain their amount; and since that time the quantities and names only that obtained premiums have been entered.

There are five corn-mills in the parish; at Bally-Mills. gawley, Lisnawerry, Foremass, Cleanally, Garvaghey, and Culnaha; a tuck mill is attached to this last,

which is chiefly employed in finishing woollen cloths manufactured at the farmers' houses.

Roads.

Two principal roads pass through this parish. The Derry mail-coach line traverses it from the south-east, near Ballygawley, in a north-western direction, for a length of five miles. This road is in good order, though, when the sums expended on it are taken into consideration, this does not seem to merit a high degree of praise. The breadth of it seems unnecessary; in many places it appears an unmeaning waste of land. Roads should be wide near large towns, where there must be a concourse of carriages, and villages adjoining; such a mode of laying them out may prevent accidents, from cows and pigs straying about the outskirts; but the grass and tall weeds growing on the sides are a sufficient proof how unnecessary such a breadth is in the open country, at a distance from a town. The extra breadth, beyond the gravelled part, would certainly be useful in case of accidents, if made level and firm. Should carriages encounter, or horses become ungovernable, there would then be room for exertion to prevent danger, or for extrication out of it; but to be serviceable in this manner, the sides ought to be as level, though they need not be so hard, as the middle.

The other line crosses the southern extremity of the parish for scarcely a mile. This is part of a new line of road, continued on for two miles more, towards Augher. This length is very level, and nearly half a mile shorter than the old line, which seems to have been purposely run over the hills. The road from Aughnacloy to Augher is generally good, but

this part of it is certainly the best made road in this Roads. quarter of the country ; and is a proof of what can be done by influence exerted to a beneficial purpose, by judgment in laying out, and integrity in disposing of the public money. It forms part of the communication across Ireland, from Newry, through Armagh, to Enniskillen; and the same kind of attention paid to the other parts of this line, would be productive of great advantage to this part of Ulster, through the benefits arising from the improvement of the carrying trade, by means of a general good line of road. It is even thought that a coach could be profitably run between Armagh and Enniskillen, if the state of the road would admit of it; yet so it is, that this short line lies, as it were, insulated, between a neglected piece of road from Caledon to Aughnaclloy at one end, and the hills about Clogher at the other. The carmen consider their arrival on it as a relief to their horses from the fatigue of the sloughs and the hills at each extremity. Beside these, there are about thirty miles of road in this parish, which are in as good repair as bye-roads generally are. In the townland parts they may be pronounced good; but among the mountains, when a road or a bridge is injured by winter floods, it sometimes remains long in that state, from the difficulty of getting money presented for the repair of it, without very particular application.

The bridges are in good repair. At the southern Bridges. extremity of the parish, the Blackwater passes under a handsome arch of thirty-six feet span. There is another of the same dimensions in Ballygawley; about half a mile lower down is a bridge of four

Bridges. small arches, and about the same distance, at Drumcork, is another of two, but larger and higher than the last. In the townland of Ballymackleroy, on the mail-coach road, is a great pile of a bridge over a smaller rivulet. Its size, and heavy appearance, are caused by the necessity of raising the road to the requisite level. In many places, the summer traveller would be surprised to see bridges so much larger than the streams creeping under them would seem to require, till he learned, that, flowing from the mountains, they frequently in winter, or after heavy rains, assume a very formidable appearance.

Gentlemen's Seats Green-hill, the residence of the Right Honourable Sir John Stewart, is seated on a rising ground, on the north side of the mail-coach road, about a mile beyond Ballygawley. The name is a literal translation of 'Tullyglush, the appellation of the townland. A description of gentlemen's seats is rather complimentary than consistent with a compilation of this kind. Their beauties, when put into writing, appear so similar, as to discourage any attempt at detailing them. The situation of Greenhill is commanding, and may be observed at a considerable distance; the precipice, called the Craigs, which rises at the back of it, marking its place to the eye of the traveller. The residence of George Spier, Esq. in Cleanally, is a neat specimen of the cottage style. The remains of Ballygawley castle are inhabited by Richard Armstrong, Esq. These, with the glebe house, are the only gentlemen's residences in the parish; but there is a great number of excellent farm-houses, which bear the appearance of ease and comfort. These are the genuine ornaments of a country; and while they

serve as a foil to its splendour, are the support of the more elegant mansion.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

Raths, or forts, of that conical form which are ^{Raths.} always observed to be in elevated situations, and therefore seem to have been erected as memorials of great events, or monuments of deceased heroes, are numerous in Errigall; as are also circular enclosures, whether intended as places of strength, as dedicated to religious ceremonies, or as residences of families. These are often found in low, and sometimes in marshy situations; frequently consisting of little more than a circle of stunted trees. This circumstance is apt to call to mind the manner of encampment used by the Cossacks, on their march across Europe to Paris: each horde, clan, or division, used to form round themselves an enclosure of wattles, or branches of trees. Now, if this happened with an Irish clan, on an expedition early in the year, many of these temporary pallisadoes would become trees, and produce circles similar to those just mentioned. They would at first, in many cases, grow up equally, whether nursed as a residence, or deserted on a sudden removal; and it is well known how much veneration for antiquity and superstitious respect have conduced to preserve them since. The resemblance is striking, but the conclusion hazardous.

The site of the most remarkable of these is pointed out upon a steep height, called the Craigs, in the townland of Tullyglush, behind the house of Sir John Stewart. From thence the eye can trace the

remains of many raths, diverging from this as a centre, through the parish, on every side, except into the mountains toward the north.

The different accounts of this spot, whether traditional or written, which have occurred to the compiler's research, have been since found collected in a note; in the *Anthologia Hibernica* for August 1794. The note is annexed to a quotation from a translation of an account of the Norwegian colonization of Ireland, in which mention is made of "Askeal Knokkan, son of Dufthaks, son of Kiarvals an Irish king." On this sentence the translator has the following note. "From this it appears, that the Irish prince Kiarvals was one of the O'Nials, princes or chiefs of the Eirgals; which the Norwegians wrote Kiarvals; Gal, or Gall, in Irish, being the same as Vals in Icelandic. The principality of Eirgal comprehended the present counties of Tyrone and Donegal. Dufthacks, in Irish Dubhteagh, was the son of Dubhnial, or Nial Glundubh, king of Eirgal in 951, and fell in battle against the Danes in 954." Ware mentions a bloody battle having been fought on the 15th of September 918, between Nial Glundubh, king of Ireland, and the Danes, near Dublin, in which the king and many of the nobility were killed. And also, that in 956, a bloody battle was fought, between Congelach, king of Ireland, and the Danes of Dublin, at Tiguiran, in Leinster, where Congelach lost the day, and was slain. To him succeeded Donald Neal. In the former, there is a resemblance between the names; in the latter, the dates approach nearer. The note goes on: "The remains of the seat or fort of the ancient princes of Eirgal,

“ is now a rath, in the parish of Ergil, Eirgal, or
“ Errigal, near Augher, in the county of Tyrone.”

Ware states, from the register of Patrick Cullin, a bishop of Clogher, in the time of Henry VIII., that “ St. Macartin, a bishop of the same diocese, by “ command of St. Patrick, built a monastery there, “ in the street before the royal seat of Eirgall.” Again, we find it noted in the register of the same diocese, that “ a fourth part, throughout all Ergall, “ of the episcopal revenue, should be given to the “ bishops of Clogher.” And speaking of the conquest of Ulster by John de Courcy, in 1177, he says, “ Moreover Ergall, or Uriel, which anciently com- “ prehended all that country afterwards divided into “ the counties of Louth, Monaghan, and Armagh, “ was part of Ulster.” So that, should we give credit to these testimonies, we must conclude, that the rath we now speak of was the residence of a race of princes, whose dominions, though perhaps at different times, extended across Ireland, from Donegall to Louth.

There is standing in the townland of Sess-kilgreen, where it now serves as a rubbing post for cattle, a flat rough stone, covered on one side with carvings, apparently ornamental, and in a regular design, consisting of waving and circular lines, interspersed with hollow spots. It is about three feet broad, and about the same length of it stands above ground. It was the cover of a vault formed of flat stones set edgeways. In the vault were found two earthen vessels, or urns, containing ashes.

**Monastic
Ruin.**

The ruins of a former parish church stand upon an eminence, in the townland of Errigall-keroge. Most part of the walls are standing; but in a very decayed state. They are not thick, nor does the workmanship seem to have been originally good. One of those stone crosses, formed with a circle at the intersection of the two pieces, but totally unornamented, stands, or rather is stuck into the ground, in the church-yard. A search for ancient inscriptions proving totally unsuccessful, the reader, by way of substitute, is presented with the following modern epitaph found there: —

Here lies the body, the soul aloft on high,
Of Nicholas M'Mahon, who thought in life to die;
His cares forgotten in eternal rest,
He left us here to triumph with the blest;
73 his life, in Peter's bark did steer,
For Heaven, in May, beneath you'll see the year,

1814.

The Roman Catholics bury here. Near this ruin is a well which they consider holy; the service of that church used to be occasionally performed at it.

The townland of Grange is tythe-free, in consequence of having been abbey land, as the name implies; and the site of a religious building is pointed out; but there are no remains of it, nor has the writer been able to learn any more concerning it.

Ballinasaggard or Prieststown was so called, from a convent of Franciscans having stood there. It was one of those which Ware enumerates as belonging to the third order of Franciscans, in the county of Tyrone. But the land is not tythe-free like

Grange. The foundations of a round tower were to be seen there within ten years, but now, even the ruins have disappeared.

Out of the ruins of this friary was built the present Church. parish church. It is a long building, still very sound in every respect. It has neither steeple nor spire. The bell is hung on the western gable. The only specimen of ecclesiastical architecture appears in the door-case, which seems to have formerly belonged either to the friary or the old church. In the church-yard is a tomb-stone dated 1667. The inscription is in English, cut in relief, round the edge, as far as there was room, and finished in lines across the upper part. A few ornaments, the shape and combinations of the letters, are like the more ancient inscriptions; but the workmanship is indifferent. It appears to have belonged to John Hamilton of Muliks (Millex), probably one of the Glenawly family, who for some time owned the manor of Ballygawley. There are some farmers in Millex of the name of Hamilton. Another, which now serves as a hearth-stone for the fire-place, is that of Richard Waltham, gentleman, who died in 1684. The inscription, which is cut in relief, across the stone, without any attempt at ornament, does not mention his residence. The name is not now known in the parish. There are three or four more, dated early in the last century, of the same kind of workmanship. The burial place of the Moutray family is enclosed at one end of the church-yard; at the upper end of it is a modern monument of white marble, neatly executed.

Monu-
ments.

This church-yard, and that of the old church, are the only burying-places in the parish. There is a spot in Foremass, which tradition says was one; but it has not been used within the time of memory.

Ruined
Fort.

Near the junction of the Ballygawley stream with the Blackwater, in the townland of Lismore, stands the ruins of an ancient fort, or bawn. It is square, with round towers at each angle; the walls seem to be still at their original height, of about nine feet, where the ground is highest about them. The towers have suffered apparently more from the stones having been carried away, than from the hand of time. The townland seems to have taken its name from this ruin, for Lismore signifies the large fort.

Castle.

But the most extensive remains of antiquity in this parish is the castle of Ballygawley; though so dismantled and altered as not to attract the notice of the traveller, at least, as such. Part of the walls that surround the court-yard yet retain the battlements; and the rampart, which served to raise the defenders high enough to fire through the embrasures, still exists; but all that remains of the inhabited part is a long thatched house, of one story above the ground floor, exhibiting nothing from whence to fancy its ancient splendour, except perhaps two or three very large windows, looking towards the south, across the stream which runs close to that side of it. This is supposed to have been one side of a square of buildings of which the castle formerly consisted. But a much greater extent of ruins remains under ground. The vaults of the castle are of considerable extent; but as the passages through

them have been closed, and as they are not thought Castle. to contain any thing to repay the curiosity of exploring them, the fancy of the ignorant has given them a much greater scope. They imagine that part of the village of Ballygawley is built over these vaults. They who have explored them say, that there is no appearance of the hammer or chissel having been used in the building; but that the stones appear to have been such as might have been gathered out of the bed of a river, or found loose in the earth. Yet there is great reason to believe that the whole has been built since the grants of the forfeited lands made by King James the first. In the garden grows a remarkable holly tree. It is of the silver variegated kind. The stem rises straight for about seven feet, measuring at the middle part six in circumference, and of course two in thickness; it then branches out into a large head, somewhat tapering above, to the height of about twenty-feet. Mr. John Howard, the philanthropist, said, that in the course of his travels, he had not remarked a holly of the variegated kind so large.

In the castle is still shewn the chamber in which the apparition appeared to the lady of Sir Tristram Beresford. This story is so generally known, that, to insert it at length, would rather appear like an attempt to swell this compilation, than an addition of any new or useful information. It need only be mentioned, as connected with circumstances already related, that the spectre is said to have verified the truth of his appearance, by foretelling several events of her future life; particularly that of her second marriage, which took place with General Gorges.

There is still preserved at Kilbrue, the seat of that family in the county of Meath, a picture of the lady, with a black riband on her wrist, which she had constantly worn from the time of seeing the apparition, to conceal the marks of his fingers, which he left there, when he took her by the hand, as an argument to convince her incredulity.

V. Present & Former State of Population, Food, &c.

Population No account has been taken of the population of Errigall-keroge since the year 1813, when the returns were as follows:—

Families employed in agriculture	...	937
Ditto	in trade	... 249
Other families	... ..	73
		1259

Of persons, including children of every age, males, 3304; females, 3432; total, 6736. According to these returns, the proportion of the inhabitants to the houses was nearly $5\frac{1}{2}$. The proportion of inhabitants to the profitable land, totally excluding the mountainous parts, was at that time very nearly one family to five acres; or more than one soul to each acre.

Mode of Living.

The farmers in the southern or lowland parts of the parish live comfortably; in the mountainous parts they do not seem to enjoy the same ease of livelihood. This may be accounted for from the great depreciation of the value of farm produce which took place upon the peace. The mountain farms were taken upon the prospect of high prices,

arising from the great waste caused by war. This speculation failing, the farmers were no longer able to pay the rents they had undertaken; while those in the low lands, though they felt the loss of the high prices, yet holding better land, were able to pay their rents on smaller profits. The houses are generally good; many of them are surrounded by trees, and have every appearance of comfort. In point of dress, the men are inclined to plainness; *Dress.* and even the young women seem rather satisfied with good clothes than desirous of fine ones; so that the general appearance of the parishioners is respectable, and above what would be called decent.

The food of the poorer people is almost wholly *Food.* confined to oatmeal and potatoes; their residences, and manner of living, have nothing so particular in them as to deserve notice. Many of their cabins are very miserable; and the want of windows and chimnies in those of the cotters, who live under the farmers, proves either great indifference as to these comforts, or great incapability of procuring them.

This district does not seem subject to any parti- *Health.* cular disease; and, when not attacked by any illness more generally epidemic, seems as healthy as most other places. Numbers live to a good old age; and *Longevity.* instances have occurred, within the last twenty years, of persons arriving to some years above an hundred; but none seem to have occurred so lately as to be alleged as indisputable proofs of great longevity being frequent here.

VI. *The Genius & Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.*

Disposition.

The disposition of the lower class of the parishioners is orderly, and gross violations, either of the laws, or of decency and good conduct, are not frequent. This may be very much owing to the residence of the principal landlords. Their presence tends materially to promote peace; to enforce the observance of the laws; and in many instances to heal family dissensions, and prevent litigation.

Language.

Here, as in every other place where there has been opportunity for observation, the use of the Irish language is declining. It is now an unusual thing to meet with any one, at a fair or market, who cannot express himself in English. This improvement is of late date. There are few who cannot recollect when groups might be seen, in the markets, who could not speak English. Mutual intercourse is greatly facilitated, and business much more easily transacted, by this dissemination of one language. The Irish has its beauties, and energies, like every other language, but the encouragement of it is a serious injury to the peasantry. It removes them from the participation of many advantages; and cherishes in them a fondness for that separation. It makes them consider themselves a distinct people from their countrymen who speak the language of the state; and exposes them to the designing views of those who wish to avail themselves of the prejudices flowing from such a distinction. So that, though the decay of a language may be deplored by the antiquary, yet the man who would wish to see the interests of a nation

consolidated ; its animosities healed ; and its prejudices removed ; would wish that all parties should be able freely to communicate their sentiments ; to explain their views and purposes ; and to let each other know, that how different soever were the means that each proposed to himself, yet the object ultimately intended was the general welfare ; and, perhaps, by this collision of ideas, to produce such harmony as could never be hoped for, but must rather be prevented by a diversity of language.

There are no particular customs in this parish, *Customs.* nor are any patron days celebrated ; if the custom, so generally practised through Ireland, of lighting fires on the eve of St. John the Baptist be excepted. That of hanging rags on some wells is rather a general superstitious usage than a local custom.

It has been already observed, that the generality *Tradition.* of the inhabitants attribute the building of the old parish church to a St. Kieran. They acknowledge three holy men of this name. The festival of one is on the 5th of March ; of another on the 9th of September ; and that of the third undetermined. The extraordinary powers of that St. Kieran who built the church certainly were little inferior to those of Orpheus or Amphion, though not altogether so poetical. Their influence extended to the moving of the very stones, and arranging them into architectural order ; while his only went so far as to provide the means of doing so. We are told that the saint possessed only one ox, which during the day drew the materials for the building, and in the evening was slaughtered to feed the workmen. There is a well,

Tradition. at the foot of the hill on which the building is erected, which still retains its character for miraculous powers, though certainly they have not of late been so manifestly displayed. Into this well the bones of the ox were thrown each evening, and every following morning he appeared ready for his daily labour. One evening, however, when nothing but a small part of the eastern gabel remained to be finished, one of the workmen, named M'Mahon, broke one of the shin bones to get the marrow, and though every care was taken to collect the splinters, the next morning the ox appeared with his leg broken, and totally incapable of contributing his share towards the finishing of the work. So melancholy a spectacle overcame the patience of the saint; and in the anguish of sorrow for his faithful servant, he prayed that the gabel should never fall till it crushed a M'Mahon. Most part of it, however, is fallen; but enough remains to make every M'Mahon in the parish dread lest he should be the victim of its final ruin. The following incident will shew how deeply this apprehension is rooted in their minds. The actors in it are still alive. A funeral having come into the church-yard, two or three of the company imperceptibly led a M'Mahon close to the ruinous gabel, and then reminded him where he was. The recollection that he was standing under the wall that was to crush one of his name, and the dread of this curse being fulfilled perhaps at that moment, affected the man so powerfully that he fainted, and his merry companions were obliged to carry him out of the yard, labouring under apprehensions for his recovery.

The Roman Catholics of this, and of some neighbouring parishes, are strongly impressed with the powers of certain relics, preserved in different parts of the country. Though none of these mistaken objects of veneration are found in this parish, yet as the respect paid to them extends to it, the mention of this superstition may not improperly find a place here. The principal of these relics are the Clogh of Termon, the Donagh, and the Balagh-dthownagh. The first is an old mishapen bell, worn by the hand of time into holes. This is said, with probability enough, to have been found among the ruins of a church, in the parish of Termonmaguirk. But that it discovered the place where it lay buried under a heap of stones and rubbish, by ringing out at the approach of some holy man, is a little extraordinary, considering that it has no tongue; unless this circumstance be looked upon as making the discovery more miraculous. When any asseveration is made upon this relic, a missal is put into it, but without any supposed derogation from the efficacy of the Clogh. It is preserved in that part of the parish of Termonmaguirk, called the Eighteen Towns of Termon. The Donagh, is a box or casket, about the size of a thick quarto volume. Upon opening this, there appears a representation of Jesus Christ and the Apostles, wrought in strong relief in brass, which seems to have been silvered over, and appears to have been an ornament belonging to some ancient shrine or tomb. Some relics are contained underneath, too precious to be exposed to the gaze of vulgar eyes. This is kept near Brookborough, in the direction of Fivemiletown. The third is described to be a longer box, or trunk, containing a

Superstitions.

Superstitions.

crucifix, and some bones. Its name signifies "the book of Dthonnagh," who is said to have been the founder of the church of Tedavnet, the seat of the titular Bishop of Clogher. It is kept at Knockbuy, in the neighbourhood of Monaghan. They are all preserved as heir-looms in different families, who make money by lending them for the purpose of declarations being made upon them concerning any fact; and should it be necessary to remove them, a valuable security is required for their safe return. They are most commonly applied to by suspected persons, for clearing themselves, a phrase which means, that they swear upon them to their innocence of the crime imputed: a much more effectual way of screening guilt, than of proving innocence. The veneration attached to these objects of superstition consists in a firm persuasion, that whoever asserts a falsehood in the name of any of them, will become liable to some dreadful calamity; probably the more terrific from the nature of it not being ascertained. It is not however to be supposed that they are ever applied to, except in the disputes of the lowest classes of the country, among themselves; or that any person appointed to dispense justice, or qualified to act as a mediator between them, would set the invocation of an old bell, a brass escutcheon, or a box of bones, on a level with an appeal to that Holy Spirit which inspired the writers of the Gospels. But the prevalence of such superstitious habits shews the thralldom in which the peasantry are kept, and the neglect with which they are treated.

Those who speak Irish, when they would wish strongly to assert any fact, use a phrase which signi-

fies in English, that, to prove what they say, they would venture their head into the Theim-orrim. This is said to have been an instrument used by one of the religious establishments of the country, partly for the discovery, and partly for the punishment of guilt. It was a kind of trap, into which the suspected person put his head. If considered innocent, he was suffered to withdraw it in safety; but if guilty, the instrument strangled him, or chopped off the head. The existence of such a system must certainly be referred to very dark and uncivilized ages; but the use of the phrase may be considered as a proof, that it was once put in practice.

Among the mountains the country people make use of sweating-houses in several cases of sickness. These are small hovels, partly scooped out of the side of a hill, and finished with rods, with a very small entrance. In one of them, when heated like an oven with charred turf, the patient stretches himself upon some straw, and the entrance is closed up. He there lies in a state of violent perspiration, caused by the close heat, so long as he, or his physician, thinks proper. This operation is, as usual, among the ignorant, considered a sovereign remedy against almost every disorder, but is chiefly used for rheumatic pains.

VII. *The Education and Employment of Children, &c.*

On these topics the parish of Errigall-keroqe can yield little information. A desire for having their children instructed certainly does prevail among the farmers. They however seem unwilling to make those sacrifices of expense, or of the children's time,

Schools.

that is necessary for this purpose ; or perhaps the fact might be better expressed by saying, that the children shew a curiosity for learning which the parents are not always capable of indulging. There are three or four country schoolmasters, who gain but a very indifferent livelihood. The rates usually are, two shillings a quarter for spelling and reading ; four for the same with writing ; and five if arithmetic be added ; but these rates are very badly paid, and the deficiency but ill made up, by a rotation of dinners at the parents' houses.

Sunday School.

The mixture of books that the children use is a great impediment to improvement at these schools. The spelling books are of various kinds, and bad sorts ; and the books for those advanced to reading, are generally those sold by pedlars, or odd volumes of novels. So obvious indeed did the necessity of uniform books appear to one young man, a Roman Catholic, who taught at a Sunday school, in a neighbouring parish, that he purposed applying to the Sunday School Society for books, which he intended to have had covered, and to have sold to his scholars for what they cost him. He was diverted from this measure by better prospects. A Sunday school commenced at the church early in the year 1817. It was attended by about sixty children ; but the prevalence of sickness in the country caused it to be discontinued before it had become well established. It will most likely be resumed.

There is no collection of books or manuscripts in the parish ; nor any subscription for newspapers, or periodical publications.

VIII. State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.

The state of the parish has been already mentioned Church.
in the first section ; and some notice has been taken
of the church in the fourth. This building is kept
in very good order, and constant attention is paid to
its cleanliness ; so that it is neat and comfortable.
There is a large hall, or vestibule, in which is a fire-
place, where all may warm themselves before service ;
but the heat of it is not of much use to the body of
the church. There is one Roman Catholic chapel ; Chapel.
beside which, there are two stations, or altars ; that
is, places where the service of that church is occa-
sionally performed. These are attended by two
clergymen ; a rector, and an assistant. The presby-
terians here are mostly of the old light. They had Meeting-
houses.
a meeting-house in Ballygawley. The walls of a new
one have been erected, but they seem to be on too
large a scale, as they have remained some time un-
covered. This parish and Aghalow, are under the
care of one minister, who resides at Aughnacloy, in
the latter parish. There is also an evangelical, and a
methodist meeting-house. How the former is at-
tended, the compiler is not well informed. But the
congregation attending the latter has certainly de-
creased. It used to be too large for the house to
contain, but latterly the tabernacle is not half filled.
The principal person of this persuasion is a miller, a
respectable man in his rank. He has lately left this
parish, but occasionally visits his friends ; at which
times the congregation is larger than usual. This
man gave as a reason for his quitting the established

church, that one Sunday the curate asked him about the produce of oats that year, when, as he added, he should have been examining him concerning the state of his soul.

Glebe.

The glebe consists of two townlands, Churchland and Gort, containing about 195 acres, beside some mountain, which produce near £400 a-year to the rector. The glebe-house and offices are by no means in the order that a resident incumbent would wish. They are in the former of those lands, in a good situation, adjoining the village of Ballygawley, and about a mile and a half from the church; yet their appearance is bleak, all the trees in that townland having been sold by a former incumbent, for a very trifling consideration, and none planted since.

Parochial Funds.

There is no fund for the relief of the poor, except the Sunday collections. These are occasionally divided among a few, supposed most to want relief. The number of such, at present, is twenty-seven. These are not allowed badges, because thus relieved; but the collections made on Sundays are by no means adequate to their maintenance.

Tythes.

The only tytheable article here is grain, and this is almost confined to oats; there is not much barley raised, and very little wheat. As the parish is wholly in the hands of a tythe-proctor, very little information could be gained on this head. He values by the English acre. This year, eight shillings is the tythe demanded for such an acre of the best oats; which is equal to twelve and sixpence for the Irish acre. Farmers who have taken their tythes for some time,

pay about eleven pence in the pound, for land worth £2 an acre. This manner they like best, and many have expressed their wish that tythes could be paid by some reasonable rate, proportioned to the value of the land.

The present rector is the Rev. James Graham, Incumbent. who resides near Fermoy, in a parish which he holds there. His predecessor was the Rev. Anketell Moutray, of Favour Royal, who held Errigall-treugh, along with Errigall-keroge. Before him was the Rev. Galbraith Richardson. He was preceded by two clergymen, both of the name of Crawford, before whom it was held by the Rev. Saunderson Moutray, mentioned in the first section, and previously to him, by the Rev. Archibald Erskine, supposed to have been some relation of Sir James Erskine, spoken of in the same place.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

It has been already mentioned that the principal crop is oats; potatoes next in course; and every farmer, frequently even the cottiers, has more or less flax, that happy source of industry which Ulster enjoys, which provides domestic employment, and saves the young people of the north of Ireland from the contagion of manufactories. It has been the usual practice to allow the grain, after being wet, to stand in the stooks, till a convenient or favourable opportunity occurred for carrying it into the stack-yard. This has often been attended with loss. But the wetness of the harvest of 1816, obliged se-

Mode of
Agriculture.

veral to stack their grain in the fields, in imitation of the corn countries of the middle and north of Ireland. They who did so acknowledge the advantage of that method in drying and hardening the grain, and it is hoped that their example will be followed, though the majority seems still to consider it an unjustifiable innovation on ancient practice.

**Rents of
Land.**

The highest rent at which good land has been set in this parish is £2 11s. per acre. Some land has been leased higher; but it is doubted whether the rent has been paid. None is lower than £1; so that the medium rent is £1 18s. the Irish acre. Profitable mountain, when let by itself, has paid ten, and some fifteen shillings; but the average of mountain let along with profitable land, is not above 2s. 6d.

**Size of
Farms.**

Subjoined is a table of the farms into which the land of this parish is divided, and sub-divided, omitting parts of an acre. It is taken from the books of the collectors of the county assessments. It must, however be observed, that on these occasions the farmers always return the quantity of their holdings as small as possible.

Sir John Stewart keeps in his own hands 114 acres; beside which, the parish of Errigall-keroge is divided into

Farms.	Acres.	Farms.	Acres.	Farms.	Acres.
31	1	84	5	35	9
49	2	75	6	43	10
79	3	67	7	25	11
82	4	48	8	25	12

Farms.	Acres.	Farms.	Acres.	Farms.	Acres.
4	13	5	24	2	36
7	14	1	25	2	39
12	15	3	26	1	40
12	16	3	27	2	41
5	17	2	28	1	42
9	18	3	29	1	44
7	19	1	30	1	48
6	20	6	31	1	56
3	21	2	32	1	61

The general price of labour is 12d. in summer, and 9d. in winter. In some parts, the labourers breakfast before they go to their work, and have but one interval in the day for their dinner during summer; but in winter they have none, not dining till they return home at night. The hire for a farm-servant to live in the house, is now two guineas for the half year. A woman servant, who, beside assisting in the work of the house, undertakes to spin six dozen hanks of yarn in the week, gets a guinea; those who will not undertake so much, get proportionably less. Many grown boys and girls hired in November 1817 merely for their board and lodging, during the winter half year. The above rates are not quite half what such servants received previously to the peace. The price of farm produce, so different now from what it was then, has produced dejection among the farmers, and the want of employment has caused an absolute despondency among the labouring class, which must produce their effects in the rank above them. The landlord may swell his rent-roll with an imaginary income, but he cannot hope to receive the rents for which he set his lands during the last six or seven years of the war. It is not one of the least unfor-

Wages of
Labour.

Fairs and
Markets.

fortunate circumstances attending this portion of the empire, that it has flourished most, when England was labouring under the pressure of difficulties. The only place in Errigall-keroge, where markets and fairs are held, is Ballygawley, which has been already noticed. But the farmers go very much to Aughnacloy, about two miles north east of the parish.

X. *Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.*

Linen Ma-
nufacture.

Any manufactures beside linen, that are in this parish, are confined to the village of Ballygawley, and have been mentioned when speaking of it. That of linen, indeed, occupies every family more or less. The women, young and old, are employed in spinning; and the farmers generally weave what flax they rear, except the quantity be large, owing to a change of crops. For this purpose they generally have one or two looms in their houses, which are kept at work by their sons, or by hired weavers. The number of those who make their livelihood by weaving, does not appear to be so great here, as in other districts. There are no bleach-greens or mills for the manufacture of linen.

XI. *Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.*

Whatever peculiarities the external appearance of this parish exhibits, have been mentioned already. There are here no remains of any great convulsions of nature; the productions of the surface are such as may be every where observed; and human ingenuity has, hitherto, discovered no inducement to

penetrate into the recesses of nature, and attempt to draw wealth from the bowels of the earth.

List of Incumbents, from the First Fruits' Records. Incumbents.

Jacobus Ereskyn, miles, patronus: valet 80l. p. ann.

Rector. de Ergollkeroge, Mr. Arch. Ereskin. Reor.

Arch. **E**reskin, admissus fuit ad rector. et vicar. de Ergolkeroge, per Jacobu. Armachan. Archiepm. 4 Decembris, 1633, qm. rector. et vicar. idem Archiepus univit in eodem instrumento. Inductus fuit ad deas rector. et vicar. p. hugon. Barklay 22^o — 1633, vigore mandat. supius noiat. Archiepi.

Georgius Walker, institut. fuit 2^o Martij, 1662, ad sepal. rector. de Donoghmore, £26 ster. et rector. de Ergegolgeroge, Erglekerogh. £10.

Johes Roan, institut. fuit, 17^o die Maij, 1665, ad rector. de Ergegolgeroge, in com. Armagh. £10.

Jacobus Semple, institut. fuit, 18^o die Sept. 1667, ad rector. de Ergegolgeroge, in dioc. Arm. £10.

Gualterus Stewart, institut. fuit, 29^o April, 1680, ad rector. de Erchilkeroge, in com. Tirone, £10.

Andreas Hamilton, cler. institut. fuit, 11^o die Julij, 1681, ad rectoria. de Erglekeroge, com. Tirone, £10.

Revdus. Gul. Crawford, cl. institut. fuit, 22^o die Maii, 1730, ad rector. de Errigale-keerogg, in com. Tirone, & diœces. Armach.

Rev. Galbraith Richardson, cl. M. A. admitted and instituted the 10th February, 1742, to the rectory of Errigill-keeroge, otherwise Balnesagart, in the diocese of Armagh.

Anketill Moutray, instituted 10th Feb. 1780, to the rect. and vic. of Eriglekeeroge, oth. Ballinasagart.

Rev. James Graham, instituted 11 January, 1802, vice Anketill Moutray, to the rectory and vicarage of Erriglekeroge, als. Ballynasagart.

*XII. Suggestions for Improvement, and Means for
meliorating the Condition of the People.*

There does not appear to be any particular mode of improvement applicable to Errigall-keroge, more than to any other part of the country. The promotion of improvements in agriculture, of exertion among the farmers, and above all, of industry among the lower classes, would every where be useful ; the inhabitants of this parish are deserving of some such encouragement, for there are not wanting among them instances of neatness, and good management, which are prevented from becoming universal, perhaps by attachment to old habits, and perhaps by a dread that any failure attending the introduction of new ones, would be followed not only by present loss, but by that odium which is cast upon novelties when not completely successful. Agricultural improvements, to be readily adopted by men who have all their means depending on the crop of each year, must not be speculative, nor their benefit remote. The advantage they promise must be at least as probable as the success of the old method, and must accrue early, or it cannot be expected that they will be tried at the risque of the loss of the profits of both.

With respect to the very lowest class, it is difficult how to speak of them on this head. Their utmost exertions, when in employment, produce them so little, that by a perversion of argument not uncommon in every line of life when great exertions fail, they seem to think that little the less worth taking care of. The greater part find that their employ-

ment depends upon so many casualties, that they become indifferent about it, except as it is absolutely necessary for their existence. Yet many a day, while the cottier is standing idly leaning against the jamb of his door, or striving to get heat from his fire of scraws, he could keep his blood in circulation by cleaning up the front of his cabin; by picking up his spade or his fork out of the mud, and removing the refuse of the house a little farther from the door: he might mend the wattled door of his byre, or secure the den of his pig, or by cleaning them out, give his wife more leisure to sit at her wheel. But from settled habits exertions are much neglected, and indolence becomes inveterate, and must remain so, as long as the disposition of the people to be improved is not considered in the manner of proposing and impressing the amendment. It is thought that they, whose means enable them to exert their inclinations for bettering the condition of the poor, in this part of the country, could effect most by doing it in such a manner as to make them believe they took an interest in their distress; and to make them feel that they acted more from fellow-feeling, than merely from charitable motives. Such conduct would be much more likely to produce an alteration of old habits, and to give a relish for industry, than even wealth or influence. Without these indeed the object could not be finally attained; but they require to be introduced by conciliatory conduct. The donation or the distribution would, undoubtedly, be accepted, because it is wanted as a present relief, and blessings would be invoked upon the giver, as the usual manner of expressing gratitude by the poor; but no emotion would be excited in the heart,

and the old habits would continue. Common charity wants the sanction of that benevolent influence which is allowed the right of inquiring into the state of the cottier's family, and of dictating alterations, while it affords the means of making them. To relief from this rank, attended by expressions of condolence and encouragement, the Irish cottier opens his hand and his heart together, and accepts it as from a patron.

If by some such mode of acting, in relieving the poor, a degree of confidence in their superiors could be instilled into them; it is thought, that banks for their savings, sanctioned by a gentleman of local influence, or by a rector, who would make himself known to his parishioners, would be of great service. Nothing so much encourages industry, as finding that it produces something beyond what must be spent in daily subsistence. But in vain may the most industrious hope for such overplus, if there be not some means provided of rescuing it from the temptation of the moment. These banks seem to afford those means; and to assure to the poor man the little accumulation of his penurious savings.

How much the lowest class of farmers would be bettered, were landlords to devise some method of preventing their lessees from under-letting their tenements, without binding them down to absolute non-valuation, must be a matter of experiment. It is thought that this might be brought about by permitting the lessee to dispose of any part, or even the whole of his tenement, provided it would not, by any such change, become clogged with any ad-

ditional rent ; but that the lease should be forfeited, if it should appear that the land became liable to any incumbrance, arising from such transfer.

The low qualification for freeholders, is a strong inducement for splitting the land into small farms. If it had happened to have been so appointed by the old English legislators, that the qualification should have borne a proportion to the value of the land, this privilege would have been attached to a sum gradually encreasing as the prices of the produce of land rose ; and consequently by this time would have been confined to a much larger income ; probably nearer to £40 than 40s. Our modern electors would then bear some resemblance to those of former days, who were obliged to attend their lords on horseback to the election for knights of the shire. The Irish tenantry would be entitled to the epithet of yeomanry, which has lately been affectedly bestowed upon them ; and their farms would appear like residences capable of maintaining a family and of paying valuable rents. Whereas now, the miserable appearance of the great majority of electors in a country town, casts an air of solemn burlesque over the most valuable privilege of the subject of a free state. The policy of such an alteration is a matter of totally different consideration ; and the propriety of submitting to that consideration may be a very justifiable reason for not attempting so great a change ; but it ought to be observed, that the principle of this change is directly contrary to that of the reformers of the present day. The limitation here suggested, would restrain the exercise of the privilege of representation to persons of some

worth and respectability ; whereas the final aim of those men, in the extension of the elective franchise, seems to be an endeavour to bring this dearest right into contempt, by splitting it into worth less portions, and bestowing them on insignificant individuals.

On the same principle of a rate proportioned to the value of the land, it is presumed that a material improvement might be made in the method of valuing, of collecting, and of paying tythes. Any kind of change or commutation of this original and reasonable method of paying men who have devoted their lives to the service of the established religion, ought by all means to be resisted by the clergy, as an infringement on their just right. The first mention we have of tythes is coeval with the earliest account of hereditary succession. And in the later periods of their history we find the payment of them regularly established, and clearly understood, while the succession of estates was continually altering, from the ignorance of legislators, the caprice of nobles, the tyranny of princes, or the barbarism of feudal service ; till at length uniformity in the one assisting to cause regularity in the other, they both now rest on the same title, the law of the land ; and the tythes are given to the successor by the same principle that devolves the land upon the heir, namely, that some one must possess each, and regular appointment prevents disputes. Yet the oppression of tythes is urged as an argument against every kind of improvement in agriculture, and as the cause of indolence in farming. Those who foment such groundless pretences would do well to consider, whether there are not some claims of short-sighted

landlords equally injurious to the improvement of their own lands; such as the demand of timber found in bogs; restrictions laid on raising marl and limestone; demands of rent for land immediately upon being reclaimed; discountenancing the registry of trees planted. They might in the next place consider, whether, if tythes were removed, rents and taxes might not be in their turn considered as equally oppressive; for it would require no great stretch of memory to recollect, that the abolition of the rights of the clergy was followed by a declaration supported by positive proof, that the estates of the rich were the property of the nation. Yet however justifiable the clergy are in maintaining their right, they have certainly shewn how much they wish to accommodate the collection of it, by the moderation of their particular claims, and the indulgence they manifest to occasional circumstances; and on these grounds a supposition is founded that a system might be devised, giving more ease to the parishioner in paying, and more security to the incumbent in receiving, a valuable remuneration for his duties, proportioned to the extent and quality of that tract of the country in which they are to be exercised.

These few thoughts are expressed, because something such seems to be expected at the conclusion of a compilation of this kind. To improve upon them, or to execute such improvements, must be the lot of those, whose benevolent wishes for the welfare of their fellow-creatures, are guided by intelligence and discernment, and assisted by wealth and influence.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

AVERAGE VALUE OF AN IRISH ACRE OF OATS AND
BARLEY, FOR THE YEARS 1815, 1816, AND 1817.*

		BEST.	MIDDLE.	WORST.
1815.	Oats.....	7 12 0	5 10 0	3 5 0
	Barley....	9 12 0	7 5 0	4 15 0
1816.	Oats.....	7 12 0	5 10 0	3 5 0
	Barley....	9 12 0	7 5 0	4 15 0
1817.	Oats.....	7 0 0	4 15 0	2 10 0
	Barley....	9 10 0	7 5 0	4 15 0

* The quantity of wheat was too inconsiderable to become a subject of calculation.

No. 2.

PRICES OF BEEF AND MUTTON, BY THE QUARTER, IN
THE YEAR 1816, TAKEN FROM THE BOOK OF THE
PRINCIPAL BUTCHER IN BALLYGAWLEY.

	Beef.	Mutton.		Beef.	Mutton.
January ..	4½	5½	July ..	5½	6
February ..	5	6	Lamb from 3s. to 3s. 4d. per qr.		
March ..	5½	6½	August ..	5	5
April ..	6	6½	September ..	4½	4½
May ..	6½	7	October ..	4	4½
June ..	6½	7	November ..	4	5
The first lamb from 3s. 9d. to 4s. per quarter.			December ..	4	5

According to this table the average price of beef that year was 5d. 1-12th, and Mutton 5½d. per lb.

No. III.

A LIST OF THE TOWNLANDS, &c.

MANOR OF MOINAH, MOYANNAR OR BALLYGAWLEY.

The first six belong to Major William Verner, who resides with his regiment.

1	Foremass, "very cold"	611
2	Lurganbuy, "yellow legs"	80
3	Altamooskan, "the high watching post"	200
4	Brackagh, "a pye-bald horse"	130
5	Shantaveney, Lower, or Irish, "an ancient precinct or territory"	134
6	Millex, "A mile's end" from some place	83
The next twelve belong to Sir John Stewart, who resides at Green-hill, in Tullyglush.		
7	Dunmoyle, "a decayed fort"	183
8	Altclofin, "the valley of white rocks"	225
9	Shantaveney, Upper, or Scotch. See above	80
10	Ballymackelroy, "M'Ilroy's town." M'Ilroy signifies "the red-headed man's son"	125
11	Turnaskea, "a wood where skeaghs are made;" "or a place fortified with them"	122
12	Altnagore, "the height frequented by goats"	90
13	Fiudrum, "the fair hill, or ridge"	93
14	Knockonny, "the rabbit hill"	138
15	Killymorgan, "Morganstown"	116
16	Lisgonnell, "Connel's fort; or, the bloody coat"	62
17	Collygeary, "the back of the gardens," perhaps of Ballygawley	84
18	Ballygawley, "the town where they played at commons, or hurling"	60

The next three belong to Nathaniel Montgomery Moore, Esq. who does not reside in Ireland.

19	Fallaghearn, "the guard of Erin"	95
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MANOR OF PORTCLARE, OR BALLIKIRGIE.

20	Roughan, "the red horse"	120
21	Ballylagan, "the town in the hollow"	81
The next twenty-one are the property of John Corry Moutray, Esq. who resides in the adjoining parish of Errigal-treugh.		
22	Tullyglush, "Green-hill," held by Sir John Stewart, at a small head rent	159
23	Glenchuil, "the woody glen," held by the Neeley's in the same manner	179
24	Sess-kilgreen, Sess means "a part or piece cut off;" Kilgreen, "a decayed burying place;" or, "a cut down wood." It is held by the representatives of Thomas Forsaythe, Esq. in the same manner	98
25	Cavey, "a ribbon or bandeau," worn by women on the head	24
26	Tullylinton, "Linton's, or the flax hill"	108
27	Lettery, "a half-town"	110
28	Crews, "bushes, or underwood"	114
29	Carran, "a weed so called in Irish"	69
30	Ballynasaggart, "Priest's-town"	93

31	Tullybryan, " Bryan's-hill"	.. ..	85
32	Feddin, " a pipe, or whistle"	.. ..	65
33	Sess-Simpson, " a small town or piece," distinguished from the other Sess by the name of the tenant	.. ..	37
34	Drumcork, a round hill like " a pig's back"	.. ..	53
35	Crosswee, " an intersection" of the roads where the clay was " yellow"	.. ..	48
36	Anaghilla, " Eagle's hill," or " a barren hill"	.. ..	84
37	Ballynana, " the boggy town"	.. ..	77
38	Drumcullion, " Hazel or Holly-hill"	.. ..	85
39	Derrymene, " the lawn of oaks"	.. ..	115
40	Lisnawerry, " the cow's fort"	.. ..	125
41	Cullenbrone, " the circle of mourning"	.. ..	180
42	Lismore, " the large fort"	.. ..	200

MANOR OF DONOUGHMORE.

The next nine are called the nine towns of Errigall; they belong to the Archbishop of Armagh.

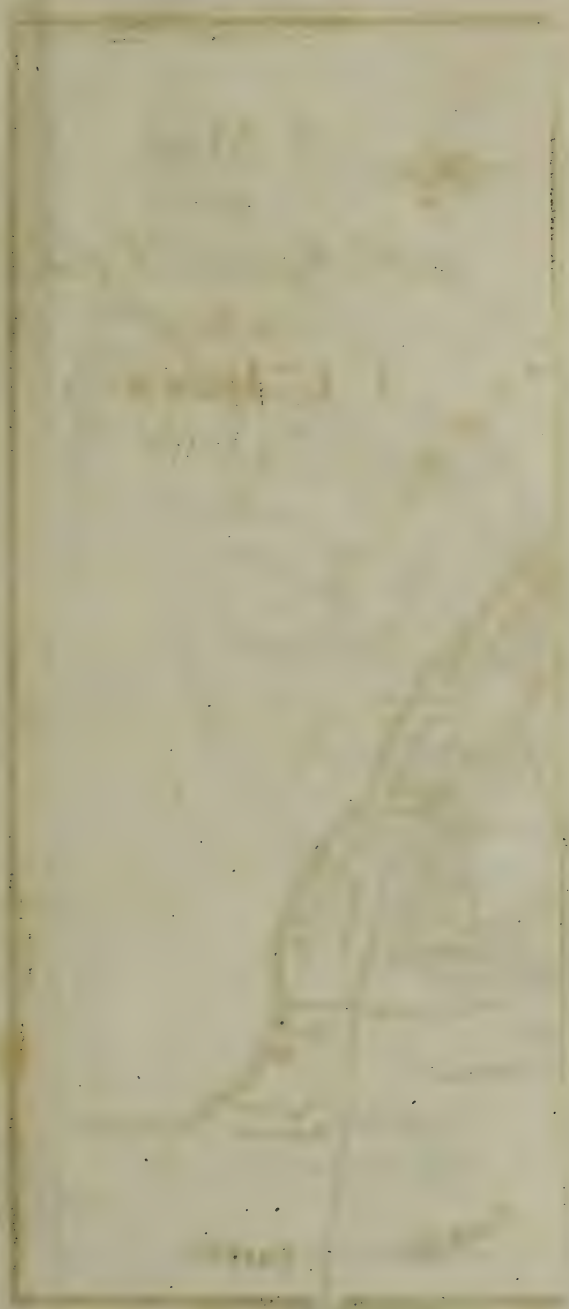
43	Garvaghey, " coarse ground," or " a rough horse"	..	218
44	Kilgreen. See above. Usually joined with	}	118
45	Rarogan, " a flat for racing"		
46	Fernamenagh, " the navel or centre" of a territory	..	100
47	Cleanally, " the swan's corner"	..	100
48	Errigall-keroge. See sec. 1.	..	120
49	Culnaha, " the back of the ford"	..	70
50	Keady, " the black hundred;" or, " the black head"	..	112
51	Gort, " a small glebe." This and the next compose the glebe land, and belong to the incumbent	..	40
52	Churchland. There is no Irish name known for this town-land	.. ..	155

AUGHNACLOY.

The next belongs to Mrs. Gage, who resides at Bath.

53	Grange, " provisions;" or allowance for colleges or monasteries. It is tithe-free	188
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Total Irish acres of profitable land, arable, meadow or pasture	6191
Mountain attached to the several farms, and held by lease along with them	3716
Total of the lands for which rent is paid	.. ..	9907



A MAP
of
Hollywood Parish
— in the —
(C^o DOWN)

*Knockbreda
Parish*

Dundonald Parish

Parish of
Newtown Ards

Bangor

Parish

Scale

Parishes 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Miles



No. VII.

PARISH OF

H O L Y W O O D,

(County and Diocese of Down.)

BY THE REV. WILLIAM HOLMES, INCUMBENT.

I. *Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

IN the books of authority to which access could be Name. procured, no records have been found which might lead to a discovery of the ancient name of this parish; nor have the inquiries made of those persons from whom correct information might be expected, been more successful. We are therefore led to suspect, that if it ever had any other, it must now be lost. Its present name might be conferred at the foundation of "the priory of Holywood," noticed in Archdall's *Monasticon Hibernicum*, at the same time with that of Bangor, Grey Abbey, and White Abbey, once in the neighbourhood, for all these names are English; whereas the religious houses throughout Ireland had in general received names founded on the native tongue. Perhaps the tra-

dition that the great abbey and university of Bangor, (from which the priory of Holywood, as well as the rest, is believed to have emanated,) was colonized by a company of English or Cambrian monks, may in some sort account for the circumstance. The modern name has been written Holywood, because it is marked so in ancient deeds in the registry of the diocese, as well as in common usage. It is a tradition amongst the old inhabitants, that this name was given on account of the strictness of the order of monks who inhabited the priory; and they also inform us, that there was a very extensive wood adjacent to the church and village, though at present there appears to be very little indication of its existence.

- Situation.** Holywood is situated in the county of Down, and in the barony of Castlereagh. The map of the parish here given is taken from the county map by Williamson of Belfast. It is constructed on a scale double that of the original, and has been corrected by partial surveys, and by the writer's particular observation. It appears from inspection thereof, that Holywood lies in a strip along the south-eastern shore of Belfast lough. The figure is irregular, being about six miles and one-eighth in length, two miles and one-eighth at its greatest breadth, and half a mile at its least. It contains about six square miles, and is bounded on the north and west by the Belfast lough, and by a part of the Knock-Breda Union; on the south by Knock-Breda and Donald parishes; and on the south-east and east by those of Newtown Ards and Bangor. For the di-
- Extent.**
- Boundaries.**

vision, see map and table of townlands, in the appendix.

The air is much colder and more moist in this Climate. part of the country, than in the more southern districts. The difference of temperature in the atmosphere, even at the distance of a degree, is sensible to every observer. The vicinity of the county of Antrim mountains, which are ranged on the opposite shore of the Belfast lough, with Lough Neagh in their rear, upon the one side, and Strangford lough, which lies at the distance of about five miles, on the opposite, may cause it to be more moist and inclement than its latitude would otherwise indicate. The summers are tempered by cool refreshing breezes, which render the air peculiarly salubrious at that season; but the whole line of country on this side of the lough, lying exposed to the north-west winds, so prevalent here in winter and spring, the temperature at those seasons is more strikingly severe, and is hurtful to vegetation. The inhabitants, nevertheless, do not give any proofs of its insalubrity, being generally healthy and robust.

The surface of this parish, between hill, valley, and Soil. plain, is greatly diversified, and consequently the soil is of various descriptions. In the hilly country the bottom or sub-soil is cold and gravelly; in the south-western end, it is a dead ruddy sand, and in the remainder, it is a heavy red clay. The two latter, under proper cultivation, form a fruitful soil, especially the argillaceous. The hills are occupied by tillage, nearly to the top, so that about one-sixth

of the whole parish is left to pasture ; about as much more is under meadow, and principally consists of what is comprised in gentlemen's demesnes.

Hills. The Holywood hills extend in a continued chain from the townlands of Strandstown and Ballycloghan, to that of Ballydavy, their direction being from south-west to north-east ; the two highest are called Barbadoes and Standard-hill ; the former of them is very steep, and almost entitled to the appellation of mountain. It is said to have derived its name from a supposed resemblance to a hill in the island of Barbadoes ; but it is by no means certain that this is the true origin. The rest generally take their names from the townlands in which they are situated, except Bunker's-hill in Strand-town. This last, it appears, received the appellation during the former American war. The owner of that farm, a merchant in Belfast, was, it seems, greatly disposed to favour the cause of American independence.

Woods. Although there are many plantations of forest trees throughout the parish, there are but two which deserve the name of woods, those of Holywood and Cultra. The former is on Barbadoes-hill, and is principally composed of fir and beech, overhanging Holywood-house and demesne, and covering an hundred acres and upwards ; the latter is on the hills which overhang Cultra, and cover about half that space of ground ; the former, though a more extensive wood, being laid out in straight lines, is a much less picturesque object than the latter.

Bog. There is but one bog that affords fuel. It is si-

tuated in the townland of Ballycloghan, contains about three acres, and is commonly called the Castle-hill-moss, as it belongs to the owner of that farm. The Holywood-moss is a worn out bog, containing about fifty acres. It lies on the southern side of Barbadoes-hill, adjoining the townland of Ballykeel. It is at present nearly covered with water, and has a rocky or gravelly bottom, so that even were it drained, (which is at present in contemplation,) little hopes are entertained of its becoming serviceable.

A few streams from the hills empty themselves Rivers. into the lough. What approaches nearest to the character of a river is Conn's Brook, which takes its name from the celebrated Conn O'Neill, to whom all the surrounding tract of country once belonged.*

The Belfast Lough, or Carrickfergus Bay, along Bay, whose shore the parish extends, runs north-east from the town of Belfast, into the Northern Channel, over against Wigton in Scotland. In it, and opposite to the north-eastern extremity of the parish, there is mooring for ships of war of from 30 to 40 guns. Over against the village of Holywood are situated the Carmoyle or Germayle roads, where ships drawing 17 feet of water find anchorage. Here the larger vessels lighten their burden before they proceed up to Belfast. On this side of the Lough, extending four miles and upwards from Belfast, there is a bank of heavy slate-coloured sand and mud, beyond which

* Conn O'Neill had his residence at Castlereagh. He was imprisoned by Sir Arthur Chichester in the reign of Elizabeth, and restored to part of his estates in the reign of James I.

the shore is composed of continued strata of stone of different descriptions, interspersed with abrupt and shelving rocks, whence several places adjacent have their names, as Rockport, Craig-a-vad, &c.

On the shore there are several places near the village of Holywood where ships from 40 to 100 tons burden can float at high water, but lower down at Cultra, Rockport, and Effy's-port, vessels from 2 to 300 tons find anchorage. The first of these is the largest. It has been built during last summer by Hugh Kennedy, Esq. of Cultra, and it bids fair for being highly serviceable to the inhabitants, as it affords them cheaper and more expeditious means of obtaining coals, and enables them, when they cannot otherwise find a market, to export their produce.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

Limestone. The mineralogy of this parish is not devoid of interest to the lovers of that science. The magnesian lime is found on the Cultra shore: it is of a buff colour, and is burnt in kilns for the use of the farmers, when it becomes of an ashy hue. As a manure there are various opinions concerning its value. The quarries being found under the high water mark, and therefore not easily worked, the practical farmers find it as expensive as the white lime, which is brought over in small craft from the county of Antrim shore. This last they esteem more highly as a manure, but it is not impossible that they may not as yet have discovered the proper use of the magnesian lime. At present they spread it out in autumn

upon lea ground, and turn it up in the spring following. The complaint against it is that it is productive of weeds, and does not give as great a number of crops as the white lime. Near it is found another species, the schistose, containing, however, but a small proportion of lime. On the Ballymena and Sandstone Cultra shore, there are continued strata of red sandstone. Though these stones are generally red, there are some of a chocolate colour, others of a yellow, and even some inclining to slate colour. In a few instances we find them containing concretions of quartz, from the smallest size to that of a marble or walnut. It is with these the inhabitants principally build, though the quarries are liable to the inconvenience of being overflowed at high water. Between Cultra and Crawford's-burn, in the parish of Bangor, there are several whin-dykes, adjacent to which a quantity of whin-stone lies loosely scattered on the shore. Whin
Dykes.

The hills are formed of various rocks of the schistose kind; the denominations of these stones are, killas, gray-wache, gray-wache slate, according to the German, or according to the British mineralogists, transition slate. Some of them contain mica. Those which are found nearest to the shore are not well suited to architectural purposes. The slate, which rises in large lamina from three to four feet in length, is found at the summits of the hills, and is a better kind of building stone. It is not much used, however, on account of the distance and difficulty of draft. Some of the hills are composed of a rotten rock, the stone being of the same description, that is, schistose. This is used as gravel for the pur-

pose of making roads, and in dry weather it binds so hard as to appear almost like a solid flag. It is called black gravel, though in many instances its bottom is of a reddish brown, when it appears to contain a large proportion of ochre. Marl has been found in Cultra, Ballycloghan, and Holywood, but the pits have been worn out. It is probable that a great quantity would still be found if proper means were used for discovering and working the pits.

Marl.

Chalybeate
Springs.

A few chalybeate springs have been discovered in the vicinity of Holywood, Cultra, and Ballymahon. They are all nearly of the same description. The water contains iron in a large proportion, fixed air, and marine acid.

Coal Mine.

There are no mines of any description in the parish. The old inhabitants report, that there was once a coal mine in the hills above Holywood: these hills, however, have not been supposed by mineralogists to give any indication of coal. We are therefore inclined to think that it might have been a mine of some other description. According to the traditional account, it was destroyed in the rebellion of 1641, and they show the place where the framework of the shaft was remembered to have been seen. This is not mentioned as entitled to much credit, but in any search or survey which hereafter may be made with a view to discover such valuable productions of nature, that circumstance ought not to be wholly overlooked.

Manures.

In a former article we noticed the lime and marl which have been used in manuring. In addition to

these we have the alga marina or sea-weed in great quantities, which is thrown up with every in-blowing wind upon the shores of the lough, and with which the farmers manure very extensively. It is quite strong enough, even when used without any preparation, to give crops of potatoes and wheat alternately: they frequently however gather it into middens, and mix it with stable manure, and leave it to ferment for a season, in which case it becomes very rich and valuable. The species which is gathered here in greatest abundance, is that which commonly goes by the name of the ribbon-rack.

In botany also, this parish affords some objects of Plants. interest. The arundo phragmites grows in the fences and flat marshy grounds near the sea, between Bunker's-hill and West-brook, and is found to be serviceable to weavers. The sambucus ebulus, or dwarf elder, is found near Cultra. Some time ago, a beautiful bed of wild roses, which grew to near an acre in extent, beneath the road to Richmond-lodge, was more accurately observed, and it was found that the rose was a non-descript. It is now called the Rosa Hibernica, and a description is given of it in the Transactions of the Dublin Society. In this parish it has been observed that the digitalis purpureus, or common fox glove, is not found as a native, although there is abundance of those plants in the adjoining ones. Such are the most distinguished botanical facts which this parish affords.

In natural history there are few objects to excite Natural
History. attention. The game, quadrupeds, fish, insects, &c.

Natural
History.

are similar to those of the neighbouring country. Amongst the water fowl, the barnacle, as it is generally called, though it answers best to the description of the brent-geese, is perhaps most worthy of note. These fowl come up the lough in September, in immense numbers, and leave it in May, and are esteemed a great delicacy. Amongst the various tribes of fish which are taken on the coast, that which most deserves notice is the muscle, rather, however, on account of its great numbers, than any distinguishing properties. They cover the Holywood-bank, and from the month of March to that of July, they afford food and employment to the poor of the village, a muscle gatherer being enabled to earn from fifteen pence to two shillings a day. The bed is quite inexhaustible, for though almost stripped at one time, it is quite as well covered after the succeeding tide. Besides these, oysters, remarkably large and well-flavoured, are found on the bank, and along the shore; as also various kinds of flat fish, turbot, sole and plaice, &c. It appears, however, from the information to be gathered, both from the inhabitants and the fishermen, that the quantity of these last, as well as of the gurnet, formerly in abundance, is greatly diminished of late years, and on inquiry into the cause, it is generally attributed to the practice of drudging for oysters, by which the spawn at the bottom is disturbed, before the process of incubation is perfected.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

Villages.

Strandtown and Holywood are the only villages in the parish. The former contains 13 houses, and

is distant one mile and a quarter from Belfast on the Bangor road: the latter is four miles and a quarter distant on the same road. It consists of 153 houses, besides places of worship, and contains a population of 600 persons. This village is remarkable for being much superior in neatness to the generality of Irish villages, and its situation is extremely beautiful. It is much frequented as a bathing-place in summer, being situated close to the sea-shore; and it is full of small lodges, which are filled with strangers at that season, but which of course are unoccupied in winter.

The gentlemen's seats are, Conn's Brook, the residence of Mr. Martin, merchant of Belfast, one mile and a half distant from that town, on the north-western side of the Bangor road. Ballymeechan, lately built, a villa of Alexander Gordon, Esq. two miles and a quarter distant from Belfast, south-east of the same road. Richmond Lodge, the seat of Francis Turnly, Esq. The grounds of this place are well planted, and very tastefully laid out: It is three miles distant from Belfast, on the south. Clifton, the seat of Dr. Haliday, three miles and a quarter distant from Belfast, south side. Westbrook, lately built, the villa of the Rev. Edward May, vicar of Belfast, south side. Holywood-house, built by the late Simon Isaac, Esq. then proprietor of the Holywood estate, a gentleman whose memory is much revered by the inhabitants. The external appearance of this mansion is formal and old-fashioned, but great attention and expense have been bestowed on it. It is at present the property of William Kennedy, Esq. now resident in the East Indies, by whom

Gentle-
men's Seats

**Gentle-
men's Seats**

the estate has been lately purchased. It is about four miles distant from Belfast, south side. Ballymena, the residence of Cunningham Greg, Esq. a large and modern structure. The offices are remarkably extensive, and the shrubbery is said to excel any thing of the kind in the north of Ireland. It is four miles and a half distant from Belfast, south side. Cultra, the seat and family residence of Hugh Kennedy, Esq. proprietor of the Cultra estate. The tasteful display of planting, both young and old, as well as the natural advantages of the situation (being not far distant from the lough) render this a very beautiful place. The house is an old structure, but the present proprietor is now adding to and improving it after the Gothic fashion. It is five miles and a half from Belfast, north side. Craig-a-vad, the seat of Arthur Forbes, Esq. is six miles distant from Belfast, north side. Rockport, the seat of John Turnly, Esq. The house is modern, built by its present proprietor. Its situation is close to the lough, and near a small harbour from which it derives its name. It is nearly seven miles distant from Belfast, north side. All these seats are on the Bangor road. Castlehill, the seat of Joseph Garner, Esq. is three miles and a half distant from Belfast, and is situated on the northern side of the Newtown-Ard's road. Belmont, the seat of James Orr, Esq. is immediately adjacent to the former. Greenville, the seat of John H. Houston, Esq. situated on the south side of the Beer's-bridge road, lies one mile and a quarter distant from Belfast. Bloomfield, the seat of Arthur Crawford, Esq. on the south side of the road leading to Orangefield, is nearly two miles from Belfast.

There are besides these some small lodges, cottages, &c. which it may not be necessary to notice.

There are ten houses of the description of public-^{Inns.} houses; four in the village of Holywood, the remainder dispersed throughout the parish: one of them has good accommodation as an inn. But ^{Bridges.} four bridges in this parish deserve any notice; one of three arches built over Conn's-brook, called the new bridge; a second over the same called Beer's bridge; another in the village of Holywood; and a fourth in the townland of Cultra. The two last are built on small streams that take their rise in the Holywood hills. These and two presbyterian meeting-houses, which are of very plain structure, are the only modern buildings of a public nature existing amongst us, unless the glebe-house, which has been lately erected, be reckoned of that description.

The principal roads are those which lead from ^{Roads.} Belfast through Newtown-Ards and Bangor. The former is a mail coach road, the latter runs along the shores of the lough and passes through the village of Holywood, whence it is generally called the Holywood road. There are besides these several other county roads, two leading from the village of Holywood in a southern direction, one to Newtown-Ards, the other to Dundonald. The situation of the rest, which are of inferior note, and which it might be difficult to describe minutely, may be best known by consulting the map.

The scenery of the country is beautiful. The ^{Scenery.} parish, as has been observed already in sect. I. lies

in a stripe along the Belfast lough. Towards the inland side, a chain of high hills extends from nearly the one extremity to the other. The sloping country between these and the Belfast lough is beautifully diversified, and being richly cultivated, planted and adorned with gentlemen's seats, has a most picturesque effect. This effect is greatly heightened by the prospect of the lough, terminated by the town of Belfast at its upper extremity, and bounded on the opposite side by the magnificent chain of the county Antrim mountains. These extend along the shore from Carrickfergus to Belfast, and fade from the eye in the internal country.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

Church.

The only ancient building existing here, is the parish church. It is small, but is reckoned one of the oldest in the diocese. The area is a rectangled parallelogram, 78 feet by 24 feet in the clear, including the chancel. Its height from floor to ceiling is about 20 feet: the walls are 3 feet in thickness. It has a small belfry or tower with a bell at the entrance. The tower which has lately been new-modelled, is about 10 feet square in area. The design of the whole was gothic, of a very remote period, as far as we can discover it beneath the changes and re-buildings it has undergone. On the walls of each side, just beneath the roof, there are still remaining, a number of heads of stone, rudely carved, projecting about six or eight inches. They are vulgarly called monks' heads, but have most probably been intended as representations of the saints. The church having been lately fitted

up after a more modern fashion, it requires attentive observation to discover those appearances of high antiquity for which it was formerly remarkable; still however, there are several indications of it. Gravestones of a very old date have been dug up in the adjoining gardens, together with fragments of rudely sculptured stone formerly used as ornaments in building. In the church-yard has been found buried, at a considerable depth, a large piece of free-stone, a cube of about 4 feet, which seems, by an excavation of the size of a bowl, to have been used as a font. The church is placed at the north-eastern extremity of the village of Holywood.

It is evident that this church was formerly the chapel of a religious house situated here; for adjoining to it there is a small farm and orchard of about 10 acres, which went by the name of the Priory Park, and which it appears was given in exchange for the present glebe. Popular tradition says, that the church was built with every tythe stone of the castle of Carrickfergus, and that there is a subterraneous passage beneath the lough, by which they communicate. The stone, however, of which it is built, is the yellow limestone and the red sandstone, hewn into square blocks, whereas the castle is built of granite. Of course these stories are not to be attended to, except as far as they indicate the great reverence the people have for this church.

Archdall in his *Monasticon Hibernicum*, thus notices this priory—"A monastery was founded here for friars of the order of St. Francis. We know not to whom it owed its origin, although M. Alle-

Church. mande, without the least authority, gives it to one of the Annesley's, which family was not settled in the North of Ireland until long after the final suppression of monasteries. An inquisition, 5th November, 1st King James, finds that O'Hamle, the last prior, voluntarily resigned on the 1st of January, 33d King Henry VIII. being then seized of the said priory, &c ; also of the five townlands following, viz. Ballekeyl, alias Ballycexell, Ballamanacke, Ballacaltricke, Ballacderrye and Ballaer-Knocknegonye, the whole of the annual value of 23s. 4d."

Monument The only stone monument in the church-yard is that raised over the burial-place of the Rev. James Hamilton of Mount-Collier. It is a plain, though not inelegant structure, and was erected at the desire of his widow, who, as the inscription expresses, "enjoined that ostentation should be avoided, as but ill according with the meek character of him to whom it stands dedicated." Adjacent to this, on a plain slab, we find the subjoined inscription:—

Here lie the remains of

The Hon. Robert Seymour Nugent,

Son of the Earl of Westmeath, and Elizabeth, his wife,

Who departed this life on the

12th day of July, 1810, aged five years.

Short was thy span, sweet babe, prescribed the years

Which clos'd thy journey through this vale of tears.

If feeling, more than common in a child,

If patience, sufferings borne with temper mild,

Could resignation in the hour of death,

Could virtue's self have stayed thy fleeting breath,

Thy life had yet been spared ; thy friends no more

In tearful accents would thy loss deplore :

Yet why deplore for thee, why longer grieve,

For thee who now in realms of bliss dost live,

Who in thy Saviour's bosom dost recline,

The bless'd retreat of innocence like thine ?

There is also a very ancient tombstone, the date illegible, engraved with the name of Russell, of Holywood, aged 118.

At some distance to the south of the church there ^{Raths.} is an artificial mount. It is 40 feet in diameter at top, and about 180 at its base. It hangs over a small rivulet, commonly called a burn, and at that side measures 50 feet in height. About two thirds of the base are surrounded by a deep fosse, the platform leading to the place of ascent is 19 feet distant from the verge of the top. At present its sides are planted with forest trees, and overgrown with tangled bushes, which cloke it in a great measure from the eye of the passenger. In the townland of Ballymoechan there is one nearly similar, having on its summit a modern building of an octagonal form, usually called the Moat House. This building is now inhabited.

V. Present & Former State of Population, Food, Fuel, &c.

There are no records by means of which an esti- ^{Population.}mate can be made concerning the former state of the population of this parish. A report of its present state will be found in a table annexed in the Appendix.

The diet of the inhabitants differs little from that ^{Food.}which is generally used through the province of Ulster. Oatmeal and potatoes are their principal viands. Fish, especially the muscle, is used in the season. Bacon and cheese are prepared by the farmers for their family consumption. Their luxuries are tea and whiskey. The gentry depend in general

Fuel. upon the Belfast market to furnish their tables. English and Scotch coals are the only fuel to be procured in any quantity. At different seasons of the year, their prices vary from a guinea to a guinea and half per ton. The supply from lighters and vessels of small burthen which discharge upon this shore, is uncertain, so that the expense of carriage from Belfast, that is from two to six miles, is often to be added to the price of that article. Since the building of the Cultra quay, however, it is expected that the supply will be less expensive. The turf which is used here is brought from a bog near Donaghadee, a distance of eight or ten miles; it is still more expensive than coal.

Dress. The inhabitants in their general appearance are not remarkable for strength or comeliness, but in their dress, the peasantry are much more decent than in many other parts of Ireland. Instead of the great lapping coat of frize, used in the southern and western districts, they wear surtouts or body-coats of bearskin or forest cloth, and the women make no despicable figure, especially in their Sunday dress, being attired in cloth pelises or light coloured calicoes, with modern bonnets, &c. having the hair fastened up with a comb.

Employment. The natives of this parish live principally by tillage. There are a few weavers and hosiers amongst them, but their employments seem to take up their time only when they cannot employ themselves in agricultural pursuits. Almost every weaver, except those who live in the village, has a piece of ground sufficient to furnish his family with potatoes, oatmeal

and milk. This plan of intermixing avocations, although it may not tend to the improvement of trades or agriculture, appears to be highly serviceable to the interest of the individual, both in point of health and general comfort. Nothing can be more distressing than to see the pale meagre appearance of the town or city artizan, whose constitution is undermined by the sedentary life which he leads, as well as the confined air which he is obliged to breathe, and whose mind is as relaxed as his body, by the dull monotonous exercise of his calling; but when he is transplanted to the country, and employs himself occasionally in cultivating a piece of ground, the exercise and interest he feels in his occupations, give new vigour to his frame, and elasticity to his mind.

The farmers are in general a wealthy class of ~~W~~wealth. people; the bad seasons which have prevailed of late, and their vicinity to the Belfast market, have contributed to enrich them. Some of them, however, who have their farms at high rates, are beginning to feel the effects of reduced prices. The extent of farms is from 80 to 10 acres; the greater number are from 20 to 40. As they are principally laid out in tillage, the stock of cattle is not considerable. The farmers seldom keep more than from two to six cows, and from two to five horses. The wealth of the inhabitants of the village consists principally in the accommodations which they lay out for lodgers in the summer season; they have either small houses fitted up for the purpose, which are let at a good profit, or apartments prepared in their own dwellings.

Mendicity. Mendicity is practised by a very few individuals, but strolling beggars are frequently to be met with. In the summer of 1812, during the great dearth of provisions, a vestry being called for the purpose, pains were taken to ascertain the exact amount of the poor requiring relief, (putting all labourers in work and artizans out of the account) and the return was as follows:—

Craig-a-vad and Ballygunn ..	0 Families
Strandtown and Ballymahon ..	9
Hollywood and Ballymena ...	31
Knocknagoney	4
Ballykeel	4
Ballycloghan and Ballyhackamore	21
Ballydavy and Ballyrobert ...	1

Total 70 Families.

Many of the persons returned were widows and those who received pensions from church collections. When it is recollected that the price of the most common food, viz. potatoes, was from six to eight shillings per hundred, the number requiring assistance at that period of distress will appear extremely small.

It has been remarked of late that wandering beggars are more frequently met with than formerly. The cause of this may perhaps be traced to the efforts which have been made in the town of Belfast to abolish that disgraceful calling. When the writer of this article was officiating curate in that town, an institution was established for that purpose. As there was already erected there a poor house, where

persons incapable of labour were supported, and as Mendicity. the beggars who inhabited the town were not proper objects of that charity, not being totally incapable of exertion, the intention of this institution was to supply work of various kinds, instruments and materials for the purpose of employing them, as also to pay them, at the close of each day, the full amount of their earnings; but in case these earnings were not sufficient to procure for them a moderate livelihood, it was proposed that adequate additions should be made thereto, in coals, soup, potatoes, meal, clothing, &c. as the individuals might require; that the proportions of these, however, should be such, as that the whole amount should be less than the ordinary price of labour. In the year 1808, the writer printed a small tract, stating to the inhabitants the advantages likely to result from such an institution, viz. that society must derive a benefit from so much labour otherwise lost; that the industry thereby produced would be beneficial to the morals of the poor; that the relief given would be less expensive and more equally administered; and, finally, that they would themselves be freed from a most distressing annoyance. The idea was at once adopted, and in due time the institution itself was brought to maturity. It is supported by donations and by an occasional charity sermon, and for eight years, the time it has been in existence, the results have been most beneficial, that town being remarked by strangers as well as natives for its exemption from the disgrace of overflowing mendicity, a disgrace which attached to it in common with the other towns of Ireland. The sturdy and indolent beggars, however, who before infested the streets, and who will not

Mendicity. partake of the benefits of the house of industry, as it is called, have fled to the country to levy contributions, and thus we find that the number of strollers have increased. It becomes a matter of importance, therefore, in country places adjacent, to consider of a remedy for this evil, and happily such an one may be easily found, if the inhabitants will act in concert, and erect similar institutions in their respective parishes.

If every county, taking advantage of the statute of the 11th and 12th of his present Majesty, were to erect corporations for the relief of the poor, &c. and establish subordinate institutions of this nature upon a small scale in each parish, or in unions of parishes, according to circumstances, the result might be glorious to humanity.

VI. *The Genius & Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.*

**Genius and
Disposition**

The lower classes of the people are remarkable for their intelligence and industry: a farmer here, generally speaking, is as well informed as any of his station to be met with in almost any country, and in attention to business and worldly interest is indefatigable. The peasantry, however, are not without the vices generally attendant on this character. If they are provident and industrious, they are not over scrupulous as to the means they use to arrive at competence. Hence it is, that although they hold stealing in abhorrence, the habit of which amongst the very lowest consigns the individual to infamy, they do not manifest a just abhorrence to over-reaching in bargains or extortion. They are remarkable

also for independence of spirit, but as every virtue of the human character, especially amongst the mass, is attended by its alloy, this excellence also is apt to degenerate into insubordination and want of respect to their superior. Great wealth is the only qualification in an individual which commands implicit respect; no other merit in their estimation appears entitled to any.

The lower class, though not greatly addicted to *Morals*. drunkenness, have, nevertheless, but little abhorrence of that vice; almost all of them, especially the men, occasionally fall into it. The women, though not greatly defective in chastity, do not appear to have a sufficient detestation of an error against its laws. When an unmarried woman commits a fault of this nature, the phrase made use of is, that she has met with a misfortune, an expression which is calculated to gloss over the immorality, and rather to excite compassion; and if she brings up her illegitimate offspring by her own industry, without rendering it a burden upon the father, she is considered as not having forfeited estimation in society, and perhaps afterwards marries to advantage.

Nothing could so much tend to cultivate the virtues, and remedy the defects of their moral character, as the establishment of schools; the object of which should be, not merely to give them knowledge, but principally to produce habits of subordination by the strictness of the discipline. Were schools of this kind founded, with proper funds for their support, at the head of which the clergyman of the parish should be placed as visitor and inspector, with

authority to hold public examinations, and dispense both censures and rewards, the effects might be very beneficial. Erasmus Smith's schools, though greatly serviceable, do not altogether accord with a perfect plan of national education.

Language. The language in use here is English strangely tintured with the Scottish idiom and accent. Indeed there is little difference between it and that used by the inhabitants of the opposite coast. The Irish is unknown except to a few individuals, and these not natives of the parish. It is evident from the derivations of the names of places, that, before the settlement of the Scotch colonies, the Irish must have been the language in use. Craig-a-vad, or Carrigavadra, signifies the dog-rock, and the townland is said to have been so called on account of the seals having been heard to bark on the adjacent rocky shore. Ballyclochan, from Clochan, Stony-ford, seems to be a descriptive name for that townland, which is remarkable for having small rocks interspersed through the ground in different farms. And doubtless one versed in the Irish might discover in that tongue the etymology of the remainder.

Manners. In their manners a stranger would suppose them to be rough and untractable, but amongst themselves they manifest as much courtesy as is to be met with elsewhere. There is little to distinguish them, in respect to customs, from the remainder of the province of Ulster. At wakes it appears that merriment does not prevail as in Roman Catholic parishes; and as to their weddings, these are honoured by hoisting

a flag or pendant to the top of a large May-pole which stands in the centre of the village.

The young people of both sexes are fond of dancing, Customs. and have frequent meetings in the village, or in the farm-houses, where, in imitation of their superiors, they keep up the revel from eight or nine in the evening till day-break. Amongst their other amusements, the game of shinny, as it is called by some, and common by others, is worthy of note. Common is derived from a Celtic word "com," which signified "crooked," as it is played with a stick bent at its lower extremity somewhat like a reaping-hook. The ball, which is struck to and fro, in which the whole amusement consists, is called nag, or in Irish brig. It resembles the game called golf in Edinburgh. Christmas is the season when it is most generally played. It prevails all through Ireland, and in the Highlands of Scotland. Nor is it confined to any sect, as Dissenters and Romanists seem to be equally attached to it.

The trundling of eggs, as it is called, is another amusement, which is common at Easter. For this purpose the eggs are boiled hard, and dyed of different colours, and when they are thus prepared, the sport consists in throwing or trundling them along the ground, especially down a declivity, and gathering up the broken fragments to eat them. Formerly it was usual with the women and children to collect in large bodies for this purpose, though nothing can be, to all appearance, more unmeaning than the amusement; and they yet pursue it in the vicinity of Belfast. Here it is generally confined to

the younger classes. It is a curious circumstance, that this sport is practised only by the presbyterians, though it is admitted that it is a very ancient usage, and was spread over the Russian Empire and Greek Islands long before the Reformation.

Superstitions.

Notwithstanding the superior information of the lower classes, superstition is not without a considerable hold over their minds; the belief in witches and fairies is as firm as any article of their creed. When any person dies of a disease not generally known, it is attributed to the influence of the former; and the latter imaginary personages are held in such reverence, that their supposed places of haunt are guarded with the most sacred care. The fairy thorn, for instance, is often seen with an entrenchment, or barricado of stones erected around it, lest any persons, or even cattle, should injure this favoured spot of fayish revel.

VII. *The Education and Employment of Children, &c.*

Schools.

There are in this parish one licensed and four other schools, all kept by masters who are protestants, though not of the established church. The number of scholars fluctuates in winter and summer, but they are, generally speaking, well attended. The salary for tuition is from 6s. to 4s. per quarter, according to the classes. These schools are attended by male and female children promiscuously; but there are two kept by mistresses for females alone, one of which is supported by donations. The books in use are principally the Old and New Testament, and the smaller catechism of the church of Scotland,

vulgarly called the Questions. In some schools, by way of improvement, the Speaker, and other books on elocution, have been introduced, and chiefly Murray's Reader. When boys remain at school until they have mastered this common course, the English translation of Telemachus is put into their hands; this however rarely occurs. The parents in general appear anxious for the education of their children. When they employ them at home, it is usually in assisting them at husbandry or domestic business. Employment of children.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

Holywood is an improprieate cure, consequently there is no tythe, the curate or vicar receiving a salary of £40 per annum from the patron, Lord Dungannon, who resides in Denbighshire, which is augmented in the usual way, by the trustees of First Fruits, to £100, deducting a rent for the glebe. The glebe consists of 12 acres; upon it the writer of this article has lately erected a glebe-house, the site of which is very convenient, being scarcely a quarter of a mile from the church and village. It stands on an eminence south-east of Holywood, and commands a very beautiful prospect of the Belfast lough and the adjacent country. Religious Establishment.
Glebe.

There are two presbyterian meeting-houses in the parish, one belonging to the sect denominated old light presbyterians, the other to those of the new light. The difference of these sects consists in this, that the ministers of the former subscribe to the Westminster Confession of Faith, and are calvinists; Meeting-houses.

whereas those of the latter deny the expediency of subscription, and conceive themselves entitled to greater latitude in the interpretation of the Scriptures. In consequence there are amongst them, Arminians, Arians, and even Socinians. Their ministers, in addition to the stipends or voluntary subscriptions, each enjoy the salary from government denominated the *Regium Donum*: the former, whose congregation is the most numerous, £70 per annum, the latter £50. These subscriptions of their respective congregations are supposed to be, for the former £50, and for the latter £30 per annum.

Incumbents.

It appears by the vestry book, that, from the year 1768 to 1810, the year when the present incumbent took possession, there have been 12 incumbents, so that the period of the incumbency of each of their ministers averages three years and six months. Their names are as follow:—

Edw. Winder,	A. Johnston,
George McCartney,	Nathaniel Smith,
James Fetherston,	Richard Wolsely,
Robert Heyland,	Henry Leslie,
G. M. Portis,	William Pratt,
Jacob Stewart,	Edw. Groves.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

Mode of Agriculture.

The extent of farms in this parish is from 80 acres to 10; the greatest number is from 40 to 20. As before observed, there is very little ground laid out in pasture. The farmers have found tillage so much more profitable, that they have adopted the practice generally, and appear likely to continue it. In the

town grounds between the hills and the lough, they manure a good deal with sea-weed, which gives them crops of potatoes and wheat in succession. By adding to the sea weed a little stable manure, it becomes strong enough to afford the four-fold rotation of crops, viz potatoes, wheat, rye grass, and oats, which certainly is most beneficial and suitable for our clay subsoil. Beyond the hills where the soil is poorer, and more gravelly, the farmers use lime; and although the magnesian lime is near at hand, they generally prefer the white lime brought from the county of Antrim shore. This circumstance, as well as the reasons given by the practical farmer for this preference, has been already mentioned under the article "Minerals." In these exposed situations they alternate flax and oats with the potatoe crop. The map which marks out the hilly part of the parish, will give the best idea of the situation of these inferior kinds of land. When fallow crops are taken, they often make use of the drill; and it is generally acknowledged, that although a smaller quantity of manure is incorporated in the ground by this process, the succeeding crops of wheat or oats are more abundant, than when they adopt the lazy-bed method; the cause of this is, that in drilling, the soil is kept more effectually open, and weeds of every kind more completely destroyed.

Most of the gentlemen who have villas and farms on this shore, as well as some of the farmers, cultivate field turnips, for the purpose of feeding cattle, and sometimes, though but seldom, field peas and beans. The uncertainty, however, of these

Turnip
Crops.

Stocks of
Cattle.

latter, in this exposed situation, renders them an improper kind of crop to be dealt in, by the common class of farmers. In this neighbourhood, the black cattle are of the Irish breed, which is not remarkable for excellence; by the exertions of some of the neighbouring gentry however, it is likely to improve.

Imple-
ments.

The implements of agriculture now used, are of the very best description. The Scotch plough is every where to be met with, and is preferred to any other. Almost every farmer, even those who have not more than 20 or 30 acres, is also furnished with one or more carts, so that the Irish plough and car are, both together, especially the former, fallen into disuse. The roller also, an implement of great service in agriculture, is very generally used. In the village of Holywood, there are no less than three professed cart and plough makers, each of whom finds sufficient employment for an establishment of workmen. Their work is scarcely inferior to that imported from Glasgow. The list of proprietors may be seen in the appendix

Rents of
Land.

The rent of land set within the last three or four years, may be reckoned at from thirty shillings to five pounds per acre; that of middling quality might be averaged at £2 10. To give the best idea of the rise of land in this country, the writer has, by his permission, made inquiry into the circumstances of the estate of Hugh Kennedy, of Cultra, Esq. with a view to ascertain the different values which have been set upon it at different periods. It comprizes the townlands of Ballyrobert, Ballydavy, Craig-a-vad,

Ballygrainy, Bally-caltra in the parish of Holywood, and Carrowreagh, and Ballybun, in the parish of Dundonald, amounting in all to 4000 acres, not including the demesne. In the year 1705, all these lands were let to tenants upon leases of three lives and 31 years, for the sum of £297 16s. 5d. In the year 1802, they had risen to £1850 per annum. In 1814, the greater number of leases having been made from the year 1741 to that of 1755, the rent roll was £5,300 per annum; and if the whole were to be set at present in proportion to the last granted leases, it is computed that it would give £9000 per annum and upwards. To prove that this computation rather falls short of the truth, we shall state the circumstance of a single farm. Woodsides farm, 46 acres, which is neither the best nor worst kind of land, but is nearly equi-distant from both, in 1741, let for 2s. 6d. per acre; but in 1809, it let for £114 2s. which is at the rate of about £2 10s. per acre.

Labourers' wages average at present 8s. 6d. per week; a horse, car and man, at 3s. 9½d. per day. Wages of Labour. In the year 1741, 8d. a day was the rate of wages for a man and horse, that sum being reserved in leases of that date as duty in default of actual service. In 1705, in lieu of a fat hen, the sum of 4d. was reserved; in 1741, 6d.; at present that article would be valued at 2s. sterling.

A new fair, which is as yet but badly attended, fair is held quarterly in the village of Holywood.

X. Trade, Manufactures, &c.

Trade, Ma-
nufacture.

Agriculture being the principal employment of the inhabitants, the parish is not remarkable for any kinds of trade or manufacture. There is not a single bleach-green in it, though the neighbourhood of Belfast in general, abounds with them. We have a few calico and muslin looms employed by the Belfast manufacturers. Stocking weaving, however, seems to be a more favourite pursuit. The hosiers' looms in the village and its vicinity, are at least 20 in number. It is said that the first flax-mill erected in Ireland, was in this parish. The writer has conversed with a person who remembers to have seen it, and informed him that the wheel was horizontal, but he cannot vouch for the correctness of his description.

Flax-mill.

Mills.

There are four wind-mills, and five water-mills in the parish. One of the water-mills is now used for the manufacture of flour, and another is a flax-mill; the remainder are what are called common grist-mills.

Navigation

With respect to shipping and navigation, the reader is referred to section I. under the head topographical description.

XI. Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.

There is a very remarkable tree in the lawn at Castle Hill, the seat of Joseph Garner, Esq. It is a flowering lime, the age of which is unknown, but it covers with its branches an extent of ground 75 feet

in diameter, 235 in circumference. The branches are nearly touching the earth on all sides. The trunk is 4 feet in diameter. It was somewhat mutilated by a storm a few years ago, having lost one of its arms, but it has, in a great degree, recovered its former flourishing appearance.

XII. Suggestions for Improvement, and means for meliorating the condition of the People.

A great accession of land might be obtained, by taking in a part of the bank extending from the new bridge to the rabbit warren, which is close by the village of Holywood. A work of this kind, skilfully executed, might rescue many hundred acres from being as at present useless; and as the subsoil is in general clay, it might be rendered most productive. If the affair were taken up by a company possessed of sufficient capital, they might gain an handsome profit on their outlay, and confer a great benefit on society. Holland affords numerous examples of works of this nature, why should we be less enterprising and industrious? The other suggestions for improvement which have occurred, are given under the several heads of this report.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

PARISH REGISTER.

Year.	Marriages.	Baptisms.		Deaths.
		Males.	Females.	
1811	2	8	5	3
1812	0	10	6	2
1813	0	7	7	5
1814	1	11	10	3
Total	3	36	28	13

This Return is only of the parishioners of the established church, a very small part of the whole population. It begins from the writer's incumbency.

No. 2.

AVERAGE VALUE OF STOCK.

Species of Stock.	No.	Average value of one.	Total Value.
Best Horses.....	120	£25 0 0	£3,000 0 0
Inferior Horses	460	12 0 0	5,520 0 0
Best Black Cattle	300	10 0 0	3,000 0 0
Inferior do.	750	7 0 0	5,250 0 0
Best Sheep	250	2 10 0	625 0 0
Inferior Sheep	300	1 10 0	450 0 0
Hogs.....	1200	5 0 0	6,000 0 0

No. 3.

PRICES OF PROVISIONS.

	From	To	Per		From	To	Per
Beef....	5d.	8d.	lb.	Flour	14s.	28s.	cwt.
Mutton..	7d.	9d.	lb.	Oatmeal	13s.	14s.	cwt.
Pork....	43s.	50s.	cwt.	Potatoes	2s.	2s. 4d.	cwt.
Bacon ..	5d.	7d.	lb.	Milk, sweet,	3d.		quart.
Fowl	1s.	2s.	Each.	Buttermilk ..	½d.		quart.
Geese ..	3s.	4s.	Each.				
Turkeys	3s. 9d.	4s. 4d.	Each.				

These rates were made out according to the markets during the year 1815.

No. 4.
'TOWNLANDS, &c. IN HOLYWOOD.

No.	Name of Townlands.	Ancient Names and Derivation.	Chief Proprietors.	Acres.	Houses.	Families.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1	Holywood,	Balla-na-nocke,	Wm. Kennedy, Esq.	846	250	260	620	635	1255
2	Ballymena,	Balla-caltricker or Balla-trugath,	Cunningham Greg, Esq.	420	25	25	60	65	125
3	Bally-cultra,	Ballekeyll or Ballececel,	Hugh Kennedy, Esq.	539	30	33	90	80	170
4	Bully-keel,	Craig-a-vad; the dog's rock,	Ditto.	420	33	33	84	85	169
5	Ballygraney,	Ballekeyll or Ballececel,	Ditto.	192	13	13	29	34	63
6	Ballydavy,	Ballekeyll or Ballececel,	Ditto.	300	24	24	51	50	101
7	Ballydavy,	Ballekeyll or Ballececel,	Ditto.	420	26	26	62	64	126
8	Ballyrobert,	Ballekeyll or Ballececel,	Ditto.	320	16	17	49	41	90
9	Ballyclocher,	Ballekeyll or Ballececel,	Lord Bangor.	460	39	40	100	99	199
10	Knocknagoney,	Ballekeyll or Ballececel,	Wm. Kennedy, Esq.	500	40	42	105	103	207
11	Ballymaghan,	Ballekeyll or Ballececel,	Hon. Vesey Knox.	400	31	30	76	70	146
12	Strandtown and Ballymazard }	Ballekeyll or Ballececel,	David Kerr, Esq.	450	50	55	130	145	275
13	Ballyhackamore	Ballekeyll or Ballececel,	Rev. John Cleland.	300	24	24	56	58	114

No. 5.

References to the Gentlemen's Seats in the Map of Holywood Parish.

- A. Rockport, John Turnly, Esq.
- B. Craig-a-vad, Arthur Forbes, Esq.
- C. Cultra, Hugh Kennedy, Esq.
- D. Farm-hill.
- E. Ballymena, Cunningham Greg, Esq.
- F. Glebe, Rev. Wm. Holmes.
- G. Holywood House, Wm. Kennedy, Esq.
- H. Westbrook, Rev. Edward May.
- I. Clifton, Dr. Haliday.
- K. Richmond, Francis Turnly, Esq.
- L. Ballymaghan, Alexander Gordon, Esq.
- M. Bunker's Hill, Untenanted.
- N. Conn's Brook, ——— Martin, Esq.
- O. A Farm-house.
- P. Belmont, James Orr, Esq. formerly W. Bateman.
- Q. Castle-hill, Joseph Garner, Esq.
- R. Bloomfield, Arthur Crawford, Esq.

No. VIII.

PARISH OF

KILCORNEY,

(Diocese of Cloyne, and County of Cork.)

BY THE REV. PHILIP TOWNSEND, CURATE OF CLONMEEN, AND RECTOR AND VICAR OF KILCORNEY.

I. *The Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

Situation. THE parish of Kilcorney and union of Clonmeen and Roskeen, are all situated in the county of Cork,

Boundaries in the barony of Duhallow, and in the diocese of Cloyne. The union is bounded on the north by the parish of Castlemagnor; on the east by Ballyclough and Kilshang; on the south by the Boggra mountains; and on the west by Kilcorney and Drumtariff; the latter in the diocese of Aghadoe. Kilcorney is bounded on the south by the Boggra mountains; on the west by the parish of Clonmeen; and on the north and west by the union of Mill-street, in the diocese of Aghadoe. Kilcorney contains six plough lands, mostly mountain, all which are capable of cultivation, and in a state of improvement. It extends some way

Contents. up the north side of Muskerry mountain. The union of Clonmeen contains thirteen plough lands, of which about half are arable, and the remainder mountainous.

Mount Hillary, and a considerable tract of the **Mountains.** Boggra mountains, are situated in Clonmeen; they are pasturable, and for the most part capable of cultivation. The Blackwater flows from east to west **Rivers.** through Clonmeen, receiving on the north side the Oun Alla flowing from Newmarket and Kanturk; and on the south side the Glyn river, rising in the Boggra mountains. Several mountain streams uniting in the parish of Kilcorney, form the Racool river, and fall into the Blackwater, three miles below Mill-street.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

Limestone is found in great abundance in Clon- **Limestone.** meen.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

A bridge was built a few years since over the **Bridge.** Blackwater, at Bantyre: a road is made from this bridge to Kanturk, which cannot but be highly useful to that part of the country. Moskeen bridge stands six miles from Mallow, on the road to Mill-street over the Blackwater; close to it on the right is Boskeen, the seat of John Power, Esq.; two **Gentlemen's Seats** miles farther on the same road is Bantyre-bridge, over the Glyn river; near this on the right is Bantyre, the seat of Hugh F. Savage, Esq. and about a mile higher up this river is Fermoyale, the seat of Edward Synge Townsend, Esq. The high road **Roads.** from Mallow to Mill-street, runs through this union; but no public road passes through any part whatever of Kilcorney.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

Monastic Ruins. In Kilcorney, at a place called Dounour, there is a Danish fort; and in the burial ground of the same parish there was formerly a religious house. The ruins of another building of the same description, are to be seen in the church yard of Clonmeen, near to which may be traced, some remains of

Old Castle. Clonmeen castle, formerly the residence of the O'Callaghan family.

V. *Present & Former State of Population, Food, Fuel, &c.*

Population The number of houses in the union of Clonmeen, exceeds five hundred; supposing each house to contain seven persons, the population will amount to 3500: that of Kilcorney is about 500. The people are all employed in agriculture, and are in general

Health. healthy, yet none are now living, who exceed the

Longevity. age of eighty. A man lately died, who was said to

Food. have been one hundred. Potatoes and milk are the

Fuel. food of the people. Their fuel is turf, of which there is a plentiful supply on moderate terms.

VI. *Genius and Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.*

The genius and disposition of the people appear to be the same precisely, as in the other counties in

Language. the south of Ireland. Irish is invariably used, but they can all speak English.

VII. *The Education & Employment of Children, &c.*

Children are taught to read and write at several Schools. schools, for two shillings per quarter, during the summer season.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

The vicarage of Clonmeen, of which the Bishop Advowson. of Cloyne is patron, is united to the smaller vicarage of Roskeen, and the Rev. Edward Synge Townsend is incumbent. The Rev. Philip Townsend, curate of these, is rector and vicar of Kilcorney. There is Church. one parish church and two catholic chapels in the union. The Rev. Miles Burke officiates in the latter. A glebe of considerable extent formerly belonged to Glebe. Clonmeen, but it is now merged in the surrounding property. The glebe of Kilcorney consists of eight acres.

The rectorial tythes are for the most part the pro-Tythes. perty of the Chapter of Cloyne, and of Col. Phayre: these and the vicarial tythes are always purchased by the proprietors. The tytheable articles are potatoes, wheat, barley, oats and hay; the usual rates for which are:—

Potatoes, per English acre, ...	£0	10	0
Wheat, per do.	0	10	0
Barley, per do.	0	10	0
Oats, per do.	0	6	6
Hay, per do.	0	4	0

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

Agriculture.

The mode of agriculture is extremely defective, though there are many inducements to improvement.

Rents.

The soil is in some parts remarkably good, and the mountains for the most part easy to be cultivated at a moderate expense, as limestone is plenty and cheap. The rents vary at from five guineas to one

Proprietors

the plantation acre. The average value of arable ground is two guineas. The Earl of Shannon, Viscount Lismore, and Mr. Roche of Dublin, are the most extensive landed proprietors.

Wages of Labour.

The average rate of labourers' wages is ten pence a day without diet.

X. *Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.*

Nothing of notice occurs as to these points.

XI. *Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.*

Incumbents.

List of Incumbents, extracted from the First Fruits' Records:—

Kilcorny rect. Mr. de Mora. Cormac M'Donagh M'Carthy fir. The church and chancell in reasonable repaire. The cure served by John Skinfield, val. 50s. Vic. Johes. Shinkwyn qui supra val. 50s.

Johes. Norcott, clicus admissus fuit, 17^o die Junij, 1676, ad vicarias de Kilshanny, 30s. Clonmeene, Rosskeene, & Kilcorny, dioc. Clonen. et com. Cork.

Revdus Thomascus Gore, clicus, ad vicar. de Roskeen, rector. et vicar. de Kilcorny, rector. et

vicar. de Kilshanick, admiss. institut. et collat. fuit, Incumbents.
13^o die Aprilis ult. preterit. (1717).

John Madden, 14 June, 1748, rect. et vic. Kilcorney, N. T.

James Kingston, 8 May, 1751, vic. Clonmeen & Roskeen, N. T. rect. & vic. Kilcorney.

Redmond Morres, instituted 10 July, 1771, rect. Kilcorny, vic. same, vic. Roskeen, Cork, N. T.

Francis Hewitt, 22 March, 1799, vic. Clonmeen, Roskeen, N. T. rec. & vic. Kilcorny, N. T.

Philip Townsend, collat. 12 September, 1808, rect. Kilcorney, Cork, £1:0:0, vic. same, 10s.

XII. Suggestions for Improvement, and Means for meliorating the Condition of the People.

The means of improvement in an inland and mountainous district are not so obvious or accessible as in situations possessing greater natural advantages; yet something might be done here. The defects of the present system of agriculture are visible; the means of removing them not difficult. If landed proprietors held out encouragement to their tenantry to expend some part of their little income on experimental husbandry, and on improved implements, at the same time guiding their inexperience by useful instructions, it would tend much to the comfort of the landholder, the prosperity of the country, and ultimately to the pecuniary advantage of the proprietor himself.

No. IX.

PARISH OF

K I L L E L A G H,

(Diocese of Derry and County of Londonderry.)

BY THE REV. HUME LAWDER.

I. *Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

- Situation.** THE parish of Killelagh is situated in the diocese of Derry, county of Londonderry, and barony of Loughinsholin, thirty miles east of Londonderry, fourteen south of Colerain, and ninety-eight north of Dublin. Its greatest extent, from north to south, is six miles, from east to west three and a half; it is
- Extent.** bounded on the west by the parish of Dungiven, and on the other three sides by that of Maghera.
- Boundaries**
- Contents.** This parish consists of fourteen townlands, enumerated in the Appendix, containing altogether 5960 acres, 1 rood, and 36 perches; of which 630 are mountain. The soil in general is a light dry loam, and in parts strong clay; but from constant, indeed never ceasing cultivation and bad tillage, it is difficult to define its real quality or powers of producing crops. The mountain of Carntochar is situate on the western boundary of the parish.

The writer has not exactly ascertained the relative proportions which the clay, loam, and rocky soils bear to each other ; but as some townlands skirt the mountains of Carntochar, those that do are either heath or rocky in the proportion of one-fourth, others less. The townlands of Grannaghan and Halfgain, which lie to the northwest of this parish, are a dry, loamy soil, and in many parts rocky, affording an excellent pasturage to its native sheep, and seem by nature intended for that description of stock ; but instead of the occupants using their farms to the purposes and profits for which nature intended them, and to which a better judgment would direct, they are obliged, from necessity, to pasture their milch cows upon their farms, milk being their only beverage.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

In the townland of Fallalea, a free-stone quarry is Free-stone in use, whence the neighbouring country is supplied with cut stone of various descriptions at a moderate rate. Much indeed cannot be said as to the goodness of workmanship. As this country is, in very many places, rocky, it is more than probable that veins of limestone may yet be discovered ; but these, with other interesting benefits to the farmers, are for the ingenuity of future generations to develope.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

Much cannot be said as to the modern buildings, either public or private ; the parsonage and the cottage are the only embellishments. Nor is there any

Roads. market town, or indeed village of any note. As to the facility of intercourse to the inhabitants, new roads have lately been presented, and in part made, but others are still wanting; however, there is a great liberality in the Grand Juries in granting money to give an easy egress and regress to the inhabitants to kiln, mill, and market, but an injudicious, or rather a corrupt expenditure of the money, bars the comforts which the legislature has so wisely ordained.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

Ruins. The only appearance of any building of antiquity in the parish, is the ruined walls of the old church of Killelagh; regular service has not been performed there for more than 200 years; and until within this last year, that a new church has been erected, it was the only building of this description. As this parish and Maghera had been till lately an union, the reason given for no service being performed here was, its being a Roman Catholic colony, and having no Protestant inhabitants; and it is with regret the writer has to state, that the re-

Cemeteries. formation has not much affected it yet. There are two places which are now used as burial grounds, the one at the old church, in which every description bury, the other in Grannaghan, in which Roman Catholics only.

V. *Present & Former State of Population, Food, &c.*

Population On the fourteen townlands, there are resident 304 Roman catholic families; 37 families of Dissen-

ters, and only two of the Established Church. The number of inhabitants, young and old, are 2046, of which 9 are of the Established Church, 185 Dissenters, and 1824 Roman Catholics. Its population is certainly increasing in a very great degree, in as much as in many places where there was five or six years since but one cottage or small farm of nine or twelve acres, there are now two or three, and though this may not be universal, yet in every townland it is so in very many instances. The Food. food of the peasantry here, as in other parts of the country, is principally potatoes, and oatmeal made into bread or stirabout; they are healthy and strong, in spite of whiskey. For some time circumstances have occasioned the price of butcher's meat to be beyond the ability of the peasant to purchase, unless for a holiday feast, and even then his means will reach but to a scanty proportion. Pork and bacon used to be their luxury, and so it remains to be, but in a different way. The price is the luxury now. Instead of feeding the pork for their own consumption, as they were used to do, they send it to market, and obtain a high price for it. The high price of grain, and almost every produce of the soil which the farmers have had to dispose of for some years past, has enabled them not only to become rich, but to indulge their wives and daughters in a more comfortable stile of dress than was usual some time back. It is very gratifying to see with what neatness they appear in their Sunday or holiday dress—a straw bonnet, probably at the expense of a guinea and a half or two guineas, a muslin gown, and fine cloth cloak; it bespeaks an improvement, both in manners, and also in civilization.

But still, though the head and shoulders are burdened with finery, you will, with many, see the feet and legs suffered to go bare, and to travel the road in nakedness; yet it may be, and very often is, that the head and face is covered with a veil.

Fuel.

The fuel in use is peat or turf, which is abundant, and which would give this part of the country a great advantage in point of manufactures, were the times favourable to their encouragement. Though the extreme north of Ireland has had the greater part of its population from Scotland, yet this parish seems to have given shelter to the original inhabitants. There are very few paupers, natives or resident within the parish; one only is known to the writer; and though the people are not wealthy, yet they are sufficiently industrious to support themselves with

Longevity.

some degree of comfort. There are not any particular instances of longevity worth remarking.

Diseases.

The inhabitants are in general healthy. The illness to which they are commonly most subject is, what is called a pleuritic fever, which seldom shews itself, but when it does, is much to be dreaded. In general, be the illness what it may, to resist its attack, there is an administration of whiskey; should this fail, an application is then made to a physician, of whom there is but one so titled in the parish.

VI. *The Genius & Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.*

Character.

The character of the inhabitants in general is, that they are best conducted when well advised, and by a strict and proper administration of the laws are made to be a moderately industrious peasantry.

In many parts the inhabitants still incline to Rundale. live in villages, probably from a social disposition, which may be to them pleasure, but certainly does not add much to their profit, as when living in villages, the use or custom is, to have their land in what is called rundale, or in common, a mode of tenure which is not considered either to promote the advantage of the individual, or much to enrich the aggregate.

The peasantry, though of the Roman catholic Language. persuasion in general, do not all of them speak the Irish language; the dialect in general is more of the Scotch. In their general manner they are rather courteous, a refinement possibly arising from a dexterity of disposition to promote their own advantage.

VII. *The Education and Employment of Children, &c.*

The schools in the parish are four, three Roman Catholic, and one Protestant; the price for teaching is from three to five shillings the quarter; the numbers in each school fluctuate from 80 to 50. The schools are attended by Protestants and Catholics indifferently; the number of pupils varies according to the season, as they are at times employed in the cultivation of the farm, or herding the cattle, it not being the custom here to have fences or enclosures. The boys are in general taught to weave, which is thus far a benefit, that in winter, when the farm does not employ them, their looms may. The girls are taught to spin, and in the harvest season, are generally employed in reaping.

Employment of Children.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishments, Tythes, &c.*

Advowson. The parish of Killelagh is a rectory and vicarage, in the gift of the Bishop of Derry, in the diocese of Derry, county of Londonderry and barony of Lough-insholin. It was formerly in union with the adjoining parish of Maghera, but was in year 1796, disunited by the late earl of Bristol, the then Bishop of Derry. It has a glebe of two hundred and five acres, and a good glebe house, built in the year 1802, to which sixty acres are attached as a demesne. The See lands are Fernony, Forkane, Tullyheerin, Gortinure, Canomena, and Drum-lamph. An old record in the library of Dublin College (by Archbishop King, formerly Bishop of Derry) says, "in the year 1620, there was no church in the parish of Killylagh, it being a Roman Catholic colony," nor till now, when one is building, has there been any church since that time. A very neat new church is nearly finished, situate about a quarter of a mile from the glebe house, on the demesne.

Tythes. There are none of the fourteen townlands exempt from tythes; nor are there any parochial funds, or any records.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

Manure. The manure generally used in the cultivation of the land is bog or peat moss, mixed with about a fourth part of earth, which is applied in small proportions every third year. The suecessional crops

from that manure (if manure it may be called) are potatoes, oats and flax, beginning again with the same routine for the time to come. Thus it has been, as the writer is well informed, with the same ground from time immemorial; but did the farmers employ lime as a manure, which could be had, on moderately easy terms, from a distance of six miles, there being none in the parish, it would most amply compensate the trouble and expense; their poverty, however, not their will, prevents their purchasing it. The old fashioned plough and spade are their im-
 plements. The townland is generally let in small
 farms from six to sixteen acres, the tenure usually
 given from 14 to 21 years, and one old life, for the
 purpose of making a freeholder, at an acreable rent
 of from twenty to forty-five shillings. The land is
 let, in the first instance, for as much as it will bring,
 or as can be got for it, and then the tenant must
 swear that he has a clear annual profit of forty shil-
 lings, otherwise he runs the risque of disobliging his
 landlord.

The seed time for oats is the latter end of March, but more generally the beginning of April; and for potatoes and flax from the first to the twelfth of May, but indolence or inability generally postpones it to a much later period; the seasons are usually such as to satisfy the most unreasonable, were industry and diligence actively employed. Within this last year the culture of wheat is beginning to obtain some attention, at least so far as the peasant's potatoe garden, and may (without injury to any other interest) be in time productive in a small way.

Prices of Provisions. The average price of potatoes, by the Irish acre, may be stated at from fifteen to twenty pounds; of oats at ten pounds; and of flax at twenty pounds. The whole crop of the parish may be estimated at eleven thousand eight hundred pounds, which is entirely consumed within itself. The price of labour is by the day, on an average, one shilling British, and to a farmer who feeds and lodges his labourer about seven pence in money. The farms are too small to admit of their feeding any other cattle than merely their milch cows, which are generally of a small kind; their horses are of a like description.

Rates of Labour.

Stock of Cattle.

Proprietors The Mercers and Skinners' Company of the London Society are the proprietors of eight out of the fourteen townlands, the other six belong to the See, as already stated (*vide* sect. VIII.) Moneysharvin, Grannaghan, Tirhue, and Slaughueil, belong to the Mercers' Company: the three first are held on lease by Mr. Alexander Stewart, of Ards, for two old lives, and the latter by Dr. Richardson, of Clonfeacle, in perpetuity. Corlackey also belongs to the Mercers' Company, and is held in perpetuity by Mr. Downie. Half Gain, Ballynock, and Fallalea, are the property of the Skinners' Company, and are held in perpetuity by the heirs of the late Mr. Connolly, of Castletown. That neither the proprietors or lessees of the Society lands should any of them be resident in the parish, is certainly a grievance; every thing is done by their agents; fortunately they are at present luckily chosen.

Markets. There is no linen market in the parish; but that of Maghera, in the parish of Maghera, which is very near,

is held monthly ; Kilrea, Portglenone, and Ballymena are moderately distant, and very well attended ; at any of these the manufacturer is sure of a sale. For some time past the linen market has been affording a good profit for the manufacture in all its stages, and rather bids us to hope its increase.

X. Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.

The occupants, with few exceptions, are weavers or manufacturers of linen cloth, and of course farming does not engage their whole attention. The linen manufacture would employ almost every peasant half his time at least, but the trade does not now afford profit.

XI. Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.

List of incumbents, extracted from the First Fruits' Incumbents.
Records—

Guliel. Muskett, cler. institut. fuit 30^o die Martii, 1704, ad rector. de Magheray & Killelagh, £10.

Jacob. Graffan, cler. admiss. institut. sive collat. fuit, 10^o die Augustii, 1708, rect. de Magheray, £10, et Killelaghy, £3, 6s. 8d. com. & dioc. Derrien.

Revdus Bellinghamus Mauleverer, cler. collat. fuit vicesimo tertio die Aprilis, A. D. millesimo septingentesimo vicesimo tertio in rector. de Maghera, in com. Londonderry, vac. per mortem natural. Jacobi Graffan, cler. ult. ibm incumbent.

Hon. Ld. Viscount Strangford, r. Maghera, £10, Killylagh, £3, Archdeaconry, £20, r. Dunboe, 2 June, 1769.

Henry Bernard, L. L. D. collated 19 May, 1787, r.

Maghera, £10, r. Kilealaght, £3, 6s. 8d. Londonderry.

Josiah Marshal, institut. 27 June, 1793, r. Maghera, Killelagh united.

Hume Lawder, collated 4 Jan. 1808, vice Jos. Marshal, r. Killelagh, Londonderry, £3, 6s. 8d. n. t.

XII. *Suggestions for Improvement, and means for meliorating the condition of the People.*

Encouragement to industry is the best suggestion which can be offered for the improvement of the circumstances, and meliorating and amending the situation of the people ; there are two things to be considered, first, the proper incitement to industry, and again, the hindrance which that incitement may experience in its endeavour towards the attainment of its purposed object. One hindrance to industry which often occurs is want of capital. The means of employing the peasant, though small, yet still may be beyond his ability to procure. Money lent in small sums, interest free, and taken in weekly payments, will progressively, with industry, relieve the industrious needy, and in time, in very many instances, may create a capital. The Lord Bishop of Derry has patronised such an institution in the city of Derry, to the best purpose, and were the proprietors of property here, resident, and had the will as they have the power, the manufacturers might not at any time feel the pressure of a severe season : but there are still hindrances ; every peasant here is a politician, and be his necessity in other respects as it may, still he subscribes to the purchase of a newspaper,

and pays much more attention, and seems much more concerned about the national debt, than his own. The newspaper lowest in principles, or more properly speaking, of bad principle, is the only one read in council, and until time tires, or the efficient powers of the legislature stay the contagion, industry will have little concern, and less attention.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

TOWNLANDS IN THE PARISH OF KILLELAGH, &c.

NAME.	CHIEF PROPRIETOR'S NAMES.
Moneysharvin,	{ Alexander Stewart, Esq. terminable lease.
Grannaghan,	
Tirhne,	{ The Mercers' company.
Slaughneil,	
Corlackey,	{ Mr. Downie.
Half-Gain,	
Ballynock,	{ The Skinners' Company: Is also now held by
Fallalea,	
Termony,	{ the heirs of the late Mr. Connolly.
Forkane,	
Tallyheerin,	
Gortinure,	
Canomena,	
Drumlamph,	
	{ Lord Bishop of Derry.

No. IX.

PARISH OF

L I S T E R L I N G,

(Diocese of Ossory, and County of Kilkenny.)

BY THE REV. JAMES A. KER, RECTOR.

I. Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.

Name: THE ancient as well as modern name of the parish

Situation. is Listerling (sometimes written Listerlin.) It is situated in the baronies of Idagh and Knocktopher, in the county of Kilkenny and diocese of Ossory. The latitude corresponds with that of the town of

Boundaries Wexford. It is bounded on the north by the parish of Dysertmoon, in the union of Rosbercon; on the south by Kilbride; on the east by Rosbercon; and

Divisions. on the west by Kilbeacon. It is divided into eleven

Contents. townlands, and parts of two more, containing in the whole about 3000 acres, and in length about four miles. The proportions of arable land, meadow and pasture, which it contained in the year 1812, were, of wheat, $65\frac{1}{4}$ acres; barley, 9 acres; oats, $355\frac{1}{4}$ acres; potatoes, $328\frac{1}{4}$ acres; making in the whole $758\frac{1}{4}$ acres. The proportion of meadowing was $92\frac{1}{4}$ acres; the remainder, being about 2149 acres, was in pasture.

A small river or mountain torrent, called the Ar- River. gula, or Argiller, passes through this parish, taking its rise from the hills that bound Knocktopher and Idagh, and in its course dividing these two baronies: it empties itself into the Nore at Ballyduff. Within two miles of Thomastown, in this county, it abounds with trout. The north-eastern extremity of the parish extends to within half a mile of the river Nore, near the village of Ballyneal, where there is a pill or landing-place for sea-sand, limestone, coals and other articles.

There is no mountain in the parish, but there are a few inconsiderable hills, almost the whole of whose surface is under tillage or pasture. A small quantity Bog. of bog lies in Smithstown, Darbystown and Ballymartin, where hand turf is made by the inhabitants for their own use; the greater part of the parish being supplied with turf (the principal fuel) from the neighbouring townland of Glanpipe, in the parish of Burntchurch, where there is a large extent of heathy mountain, which produces excellent turf, but which is let out at an immoderate price, from 10d. to 1s. 3d. per kish being demanded for the liberty of cutting; which, being added to the expense of saving and bringing home, makes it amount to a high price, probably to about 2s. 6d. or 3s. per kish.

The only woods or thickets in the parish are two Woods. small oak woods in the townland of Ballyneal, one containing about 25 acres, the other 20. The soil is Hops. not unfavourable to trees and shrubs, and the hop plant grows wild in an old ditch of the glebe, where it had been long since cultivated by a former incum-

bent. In a marshy spot near the moat of Listerling is a quantity of the aquatic plant, called *Polygonum Amphibium*, or *Amphibious Persicaria*; the *Digitalis Purpurea*, or Foxglove, grows on almost every ditch.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

Lead Mine. A land surveyor, employed in taking a survey of the townland of Listerling, has lately discovered a mine on its eastern border, which is probably a vein of one extending from the adjoining land of Brownstown, where some pits were sunk a few years since; the ore thrown up contained lead, with a slight mixture of silver and copper, but the design of working the mine was relinquished, from an apprehension that the profit likely to accrue from it would not counterbalance the expense.

Slate Quarry.

A slate quarry was opened on the lands of Listerling a few years ago, out of which some good slates were procured, but it has not been worked to any extent. There is a similar quarry in Brownstown, out of which slates of a good quality are also occasionally raised. The soil in general has a large proportion of clay, beneath which lies a brittle argillaceous slate. Some of the springs are slightly impregnated with iron, particularly one on the side of the high road leading to Ballyneal, which is a pretty strong chalybeate.

Mineral Springs.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

Danish Fort.

There is no monastic ruin or old castle, but on the lands of Listerling, is a Danish fort or moat of

considerable dimensions, surrounded by a ditch and fosse, from which the parish is supposed to have derived its name. Lis-Easterling, the fort of the Easterlings or Danes.* There is also a considerable number of raths, in different parts of the parish, but no monuments or inscriptions. At a short distance from the moat now described, is a subterranean cavern, which was supposed to communicate with it by an arched passage, some vestiges of which still remain. The mouth or entrance of the cavern is on a level with the surface of the earth, of a circular shape, two feet broad at the open, but gradually widening on the inside, being formed of flags irregularly placed, and exhibiting the appearance of a large oven: it is at present two feet and a half deep, but was probably much deeper, the cavity having been filled up with field stones, clay, and other rubbish. It is six feet in diameter at bottom, and at either extremity is the appearance of a covered sewer or passage, at present choaked up; but some of the more aged persons in the parish recollect to have seen some stone steps leading downwards. It was most likely a place for concealing and storing corn in former times, some caverns of a similar nature having been discovered in other parts of the county.

In the churchyard, on a handsome marble tomb-stone, is the following inscription and epitaph:—

‘ Sacred to conjugal affection and modest worth, this stone has been placed to the memory of Joseph Cuffe, Esq. who lies interred beneath, by his mourning widow.— He died on the 29th day of July 1799, in the 35th year of his age.’

* See Tighe's Statistical Survey of the county Kilkenny. P. 631.

' Farewell my love, accept this votive lay,
 ' Since Heaven decreed that you and I should part,
 ' Take the last tribute that a wife can pay ;
 ' The silent anguish of a bursting heart.

IV. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

Bridge. There are no modern buildings but a small bridge over the Argiller, in Carbystown, on the high road from Waterford to Inistioge. The inhabitants live in a few small villages or collections of cabins, in the different townlands.

Roads. The high road from Waterford to Inistioge, passes nearly through the centre of the parish, the former being distant about nine miles, and the latter five. This was part of the ancient and most direct road from Waterford to Dublin. A good surveyor might with ease, render it more level, and shorter by some miles than any other ; and this probably at a moderate expense. Also through the townland of Listerling, passes the shortest and most direct road from the town of New Ross, in the county of Wexford, distant four miles, to Carrick-on-suir, county of Tipperary, distant twelve miles ; which, though of much consequence to the communication between these two considerable towns, is suffered to remain in a wretched state of neglect, as is the case indeed with most of the roads in this part of the country. This latter road in particular, was for many years in so bad a state, that two women have been killed at different times, between Listerling and Ross, by the overturning of the cars on which they sat, owing to the narrowness and unevenness of the road. It is however in a somewhat better state at present, a

few presentments for its repair having been procured by the present incumbent from the grand jury of the county, but it would require many more to make it good.

V. Present & Former State of Population, Food, Fuel, &c.

The number of inhabitants at present, is about Population 800, being an increase in the population of nearly one-third since the year 1731, when a census of the number of inhabitants was taken by the incumbents of the respective parishes in the diocese, in compliance with an order of the House of Lords for that purpose.

The occupation of the inhabitants is, in general, Occupation agriculture, there being very few tradesmen, and no manufacturers. They consist of middling farmers, holding farms of from 10 to 30 acres, and are in general pretty wealthy for their rank in life, being enabled to give their daughters marriage portions of from fifty to an hundred pounds. There are also some cotters or under-tenants to the others, and labourers for them, holding from half an acre to an acre or two. The food is universally potatoes Food. and sour milk; the wealthiest farmers seldom or never eating meat above two or three times a year, at the great festivals, or at the marriages of their children, when numbers collect, and are entertained with flesh meat, fowl, and copious potations of whiskey and beer. When they entertain the priest, Customs, which they sometimes do when he holds what are called stations for confession, (the population being almost exclusively Roman Catholics,) it is generally

with a breakfast of tea and white bread, a great luxury with them; and on these occasions they usually borrow from the incumbent (being almost the only person in the parish possessed of such articles) kettle, tea equipage, &c. These people are of a robust and vigorous constitution, and appear chearful and happy. Their dress in general consists of home-made linsey, frize and yarn. They live to a considerable age, (from 70 to 90,) and are in general very healthy. John Gall, commonly called Shean Dubh, or Black Jack, now living, is upwards of 90 years of age, and enjoys a tolerable good state of health; and a woman of the name of Bergin, died a few years since, at the age of 96.

VI. *The Genius & Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.*

Genius and Disposition. Their genius in general is very acute, being possessed of great natural shrewdness and capacity; their dispositions also are hospitable and courteous, but like the ignorant and uneducated in general, they are prone to superstition and credulity. The **Language.** languages used are English and Irish; many of the people, particularly those advanced in years, know no other language than the latter.

Tradition. There is no patron, nor patron day; but there is a tradition that St. Mullen formerly resided in or near the Moat of Listerling, and consecrated a well in its vicinity. The well is overshadowed by a fine old spreading hawthorn tree, which the tradition says sprung from St. Mullen's walking staff, that he stuck down in that spot. Adjoining the well is a circular rath, with an entrance to the East, now

choked up, but which was supposed to communicate by a subterraneous passage with the neighbouring moat; the mound of which the rath is composed, consists principally of reddish burnt stones. There are also the remains of a stone gutter, through which was supposed to have been conveyed the water of the well to the moat; and in it there is a stone, with a circular hole or cavity, supplied with water from the well, by dipping the head into which hole, headaches are said to be cured, and this remedy is frequently tried. The Saint taking up his residence here, had it in contemplation to erect a monastery or religious house; but having been disgusted by the ill-conduct of the people, who stole some articles from him, he left them in displeasure, and removed, first to a place about two miles distant, called Carrickmullen, (*i. e.* Mullen's Hill,) now Mullinakill, (*i. e.* Mullen's Church,) from a church dedicated to him, the ruins of which still remain, and where his day, as the Patron Saint, is annually celebrated on the Sunday after the feast of St. Bartholomew.* Here, the legend says, the Saint resided for a short time; but being afflicted with running sores or ulcers in his legs, the cows of a widow in the neighbourhood came regularly every morning, and shewed their veneration for the holy man by licking his sores; this attention to the Saint, however, caused them to go back, as it is called, in their milk, or fail to give the usual quantity, which the owner of the cows perceiving, and being provoked by the loss, was rash

* On these Patron days, which generally fall out on Sundays, great numbers of young persons of both sexes assemble, tents are erected, music, dancing, drinking, and every kind of excess take place, and the revel not unfrequently terminates in battery and bloodshed, from the contention of adverse factions:—a scandalous abuse of the Christian Sabbath, which loudly calls for the interposition of the Magistracy.

enough to utter a malediction against the Saint ; at which he was so disgusted as to quit this place also, when he finally retired to a beautiful and sequestered spot on the banks of the river Barrow, in the county of Carlow, about twelve miles distant, where he founded a monastery, (in the seventh century,) which, with the village adjoining, still goes under his name, St. Mullen's ; its ancient name was Agha-Cainid. (See Burgi Hib. Dom.) He died Bishop of Ferns. It is added, that at his departure from Listerling he left his curse on it, declaring that it should never be without a rogue's nest.

VII. *The Education and Employment of Children, &c.*

Parish
School.

Education is at a very low ebb. At considerable expense and trouble, the present incumbent procured a Protestant schoolmaster ; but the population being, as before observed, almost exclusively Roman Catholic, very few attend him. The children in general are employed working in the farm, or attending the pigs and cattle. There is no other school within the limits of the parish at present. When the Protestant schoolmaster was first brought, a Roman Catholic one was set up in opposition, as it should seem, but finding very little encouragement he removed lately to Ross.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

Church.

This parish is not united to any other. It is in the patronage of the Bishop of Ossory, whose residence is in the palace at Kilkenny. A church has been lately erected, (£500 having been granted for that

purpose by the Board of First Fruits,) but is not yet finished. There is no chapel or other place of public worship in the parish. The Roman Catholic chapel for the use of the inhabitants is situated in the village of Tullagher, in the parish of Dysertmoon, about a mile and a half distant, that parish being annexed to Listerling, according to the Roman Catholic division, on which account the latter is not noticed as a separate parish in the county books and militia rolls, but considered as a part of Dysertmoon, and taxed accordingly.

There is a glebe of 10 acres, 1 rood, with an old Glebe. glebe-house, erected in 1739 or 40. But the glebe, as laid down in the Down survey, consists of 52 acres; which circumstance, with others corroborating it, induced the last incumbent to institute a suit in equity for recovery of the whole. The suit was carried on for some years, and not having been terminated at his death, was taken up by the present incumbent, by desire of the bishop, and decided by record, in Kilkenny, at the Summer Assizes 1801, against the claim of the minister, the Down survey not being considered by the Judge as conclusive evidence, though several circumstances contributed to strengthen the opinion of its having been originally glebe ground, such as traditional rumour, and a part of the land in question actually still going under the denomination of the Glebe-Glinn, in Irish Glounavounsha.

Tythes are paid by composition, at the following Tythes. rates, viz. wheat, 10s.; potatoes, 10s.; barley, 9s.; oats, from 6s. to 8s. according to quality; meadowing,

7s. per acre: Notes are generally passed for the amount, and payments made in November and May.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

Mode of Agriculture.

The principal crops cultivated are potatoes and oats, and the course pursued in general is—1st, Potatoes, with baiting (or burning), and sand raised in the shoals of the Ross river at low water; 2d, Oats; 3d, Oats; 4th, Potatoes, with sand; 5th, Oats and grass seeds. A few of the more wealthy farmers, who can afford to burn lime, take a crop of wheat after the potatoes; but lime is considered an expensive manure, a boat load of it, when burned, amounting to about six pounds or guineas, which, at 120 barrels to the boat load, stands the proprietor in about 1s. per barrel. The implements of husbandry in general use being very indifferent and insufficient, the ground in consequence is very badly tilled. The

Stock.

cattle consists of a horse or two for agricultural purposes, generally of a very inferior description, and some cows and pigs, the rent being made principally from the sale of butter and fat pigs.

Rents of Land.

The townland of Listerling, which comprises nearly a third of the parish, and contains between eight and nine hundred acres, being lately out of lease, was reset, from the 25th of March last (1813), mostly to the same tenants, at from three pounds to three guineas per acre, producing an income of nearly £3000 per annum, though set before at £400. The under-tenants held at from 15s. to 20s. per acre during the former lease. The average rent paid in the remainder of the parish is from twenty shillings to two guineas per acre.

There are no markets or fairs in the parish at Corn Mill. present, but Mr. Prendergast, the proprietor of the townland of Listerling, proposes to procure a patent for holding three annual fairs in said townland, and it is expected they will be shortly established; the inhabitants generally dispose of their produce in Waterford or Ross. There is also a corn market to a small extent in the contiguous village of Ballyneal. A good and substantial mill for grinding oats has been lately erected on the site of an old thatched one in the townland of Listerling, at which the tenantry are bound by a covenant in their leases to grind their corn. The grist charged for grinding is 1s. 7½d. per barrel,

The price of labour is 1s. 3d. per day without ^{Wages of} food, and 10d. with food; in harvest, when there is ^{Labour.} a press of work, the farmers generally hire reapers and potatoe diggers in the neighbouring towns of Ross and Thomastown, whom they pay from 7s. to 9s. per week, providing them also with food and lodging. These labourers come generally from the counties of Tipperary and Wexford.

X. Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.

There is no trade except that of cattle and pigs ^{Manufac-} sold in the neighbouring fairs, and no manufactures, ^{tures.} except, as before observed, of home-made frize yarn and linsey for domestic uses. Most of the wealthier sort of farmers also grow a little flax for their own use, which they manufacture into coarse linen and canvass for sacks and bags. The rates for convey-

ance of sand and limestone on the neighbouring river Nore, are 30s. per boat load.

XI. Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.

There are no natural curiosities, nor any remarkable occurrences recorded, except the traditional report of the temporary residence of St. Mullen, near the well of Listerling, with the circumstances attending it, as already noticed. In the late rebellion of 1798, the then incumbent, Mr. Robinson, who resided in the glebe house, and was in many respects a singular character, was seized by a party of rebels, who took him about a mile from his house, with an avowed intention of shooting him; but, when arrived at the spot, he was offered his life if he would shoot another prisoner of theirs, the unfortunate Lieutenant Dillon, of the county of Dublin militia, who fell into their hands on the day of the battle of Ross, but Mr. Robinson positively refused accepting life on such conditions, upon which the rebels made a similar proposal to Lieut. D. if he would shoot Mr. Robinson, who also refused. They desisted, however, from their purpose at that time, though Mr. D. was soon after barbarously murdered by them. Mr. R. was rescued out of their hands by some of his own parishioners, who, though of a different persuasion, had a great respect and esteem for him. At his death, having no family, he bequeathed a considerable sum to the poor of the parish of Listerling, and of the neighbouring parish of Rosbercon, but having some years before made another will in favour of the deputy register of the diocese, a person no way related or connected with him, the latter instituted

a suit in the Prerogative Court in support of his claim, and the last will was set aside, on the plea of his not being competent, from his state of mind at the time, to make any disposition of his substance by will.

List of Incumbents, as extracted from the First Incumbents.
Fruits' Records—

Rectoria de Listerlinge Walter. Berrice rect. Edwardus Dowdall, curatus, vic. qui supra. Church and chancell good state, no booke.

Thomas Bulkeley, collat. 5^o May, 1671, ad rect. ecclie. pochial. de Listerling in com. Kilkenny et dioc. Ossorien. £5.

Johes. Congreve, cler. collat. fuit 24^o die Junij, 1687, ad præbend. de Kilmannagh, £5; rect. de Clonmore, £4, 10s.: Listerling, Kilmacow, als Killmaboy, £5; et vic. de Killmacow als Killmaboy, £4, 10s.; et Listerling, £4, Ir.

Thom. Martin, cler. A. M. collat. fuit 3^o die Oct. 1710, ad præb. Kilmanagh, £6, 13s. 4d.; rect. Listerling, £6, Ir.; Killmaboy als Kilmacow, £6; Clonmore, £3; et ad vic. Kilcollum, £6; Listerling Dunkitt, £6; Rosynan, Kilbecan, Killaghy, 53s. 4d.; et Killmaboy als Killmacow, £4, dioc. pro.

Hartstonge Marten, cler. A. M. collat. fuit 7^o die mens. Feb. anno Domini 1721, ad seperabil. Rect. de Listerling, Killmaboy, als Killmacow, et Clonmore, et ad seperabil. Vicar. de Listerling præd. Kilbeacon, Rossynan, et Killaghy, et Killmaboy, als Kilmacow, prd. in com. Kilken. et dioc. Ossor. vacant. per spontan. resignat. revdi. Thomæ Marten, cl. in A. M.

ultim. ibm. incumbent. per pfat. reverend. admod. epum. Ossor.

Revdus. Hugo May, cl. A. M. collat. decimo 8^o die mens. Maii, anno dni. 1729, ad rm. et vm. de Killmacow als Killcollin, rect. et vic. de Listerling, rm. de Clonmore, et vic. de Rossynan et Kilbeacon et de Killaghy, in com. Kilkenny, et dioc. Ossor. per rev. admod. in chro. prem. Thom. permissio. dni. Ossor. epum.

William Cockburne, 28 July, 1761, r. et v. Listirling, Kilkenny, £5.

George Saville, 10 Nov. 1763, r. et v. Listerling, Kilkenny, £5.

Thomas Collier, 7 April, 1762, r. et v. Listirling, Kilkenny, £5.

Oliver Wheeler, A. M. instituted 28 August, 1776, v. Listirling, p. Cloncamery, £4.

Joseph Robinson, A. B. instituted 16 May, 1782, r. Listerling, v. Listerling, Kilk. n. t.

James Adam Kerr, vice Jos. Robinson, who held same above 18 years, ob. 1801, collated 16 April, 1801, r. and v. Listerlin, Kilk. n. t.

XII. *Suggestions for Improvement, and Means for meliorating the Condition of the People.*

Nothing would more tend to improve the face of the country than planting, as it is remarkably bare of trees, and the introduction of better implements of husbandry, those at present used being miserably bad and deficient. If the roads, too, which are in general, as before observed, in a wretched state of neglect, owing principally to there being no resident gentry or proprietors of land to attend to them, were

repaired, it would be of infinite advantage to the inhabitants, by enabling them to convey the produce of their lands to market with greater facility. They should also be encouraged and assisted by their landlords to build better houses, the cabins they reside in being generally of the very worst description; in this respect the present proprietor of the townland of Listerling has set a good example, by inserting a clause in the lease given to his tenants, obliging the head lessees to build twelve slated houses, two stories high, and covenanting to allow a third of the price when completed.

A good schoolmaster should likewise be encouraged, by a liberal salary, to settle in the parish, to attend to the instruction and morals of the children.

APPENDIX.

TOWNLANDS, &c. IN THE PARISH OF LISTERLING.

IN THE BARONY OF IDA.

- 1 Listerling, House, Court or Hall of descent or fall.
- 2 Ballalogne, Loughtown.
- 3 Guilcough, A reedy ground, or ground where reeds grow.
- 4 Ballycurrin, Hookstown.
- 5 Rathora, Border rath or fortress.
- 6 Brownstown (part)*, obvious meaning.
- 7 Ballyneal (part)†, Neil's-town.
- 8 Brabstown, obvious meaning.
- 9 Ballyconnaught, Connaght-town.

IN THE BARONY OF KNOCKTOPHER.

- 10 Ballymagill, Magillstown.
- 11 Smithstown, obvious meaning.
- 12 Darbystown, ditto.
- 13 Ballymartin, Martin's-town.

* The remainder is in the parish of Rosbercon.

† Remainder in the parish of Dysertmoon and union of Rosbercon.

No. X.

PARISH OF

M A R M A L A N E,

(*Diocese and County of Cork.*)

BY THE REV. RICHARD LLOYD, CURATE.

I. *Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

MARMALANE is the ancient name of this parish; Name.
the modern is Passage. It is situate in the barony Situation.
of Kerriurrihy and county and diocese of Cork,
five miles east of Cork, four north of Carragaline:
being bounded on the north and east by the river Bounda-
Lee; on the west and south by Carragaline and ries.
Douglas parishes, and on the south and east by
Monkstown. It is divided into two townlands, Peim- Contents.
broke and Ardmore, which extend one mile and
a quarter east and west, and about one mile south;
and contains about 152 acres, statute measure, of
arable land; about 332 of pasture, 103 of meadow,
and about 10 acres under gardens.

The river Lee, which abounds with salmon, runs River.
along the north-east side of Passage; it rises at
Googaun-Borra, in the west part of the county of
Cork. In this parish there are no mountains: the only Hill.
hill is Ardmore, which is arable and pasture. There

are no bogs, woods, moors, nor are there any plants peculiar to it.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

Here are neither mines, minerals, nor any natural manures: the quarries are red or brown stone.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

There are no modern public buildings such as
 Dispensary. infirmaries, &c.: but there is a dispensary estab-
 Gentle-lished for the sick, by subscription. Within a
 mens' Seats quarter of a mile of Passage, on the west, lies Pem-
 broke, the seat of Thomas Parsons Boland, Esq.
 and adjoining to it stands Ardmore, the seat of
 Richard Roberts, Esq. both situated at the south
 Road. side of the road from Cork to Passage. The high
 road from Cork to Cove, runs through the parish.

Inn. There is an inn, an hotel, and a news-room in
 Passage. The town is much frequented during sum-
 mer, by the inhabitants of Cork, for the benefit of
 saltwater bathing.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

In this parish are no ruins of monasteries, castles,
 round towers, Danish forts, raths, moats, monu-
 ments or inscriptions. The ruins of an old church
 stand on the glebe.

V. *Present & Former State of Population, Food, &c.*

Population The number of Roman Catholic families is 105;
 that of Protestant families is 35; which, calculated

at 7 each, amounts to 980 souls, of whom the females are nearly double the males: 33 families are employed in agriculture; 50 in trades, manufactures and handicraft, and 57 live by their properties, by fishing, or other employments. The people in general are not wealthy; the food of the lower class consists of fish, potatoes and milk; they are very healthy, and live mostly to a good age. One extraordinary instance of longevity has been furnished in the person of a poor woman, by name Margaret Maw, who died at 102 years of age, and retained her faculties to the last. The people appear in general well clad, and seem happy and contented.

VI. Genius and Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.

The poorer classes are well informed and mostly Language. industrious; their language is the Irish; the better sort speak English. They have no peculiar customs, patrons, patron days, or traditions.

VII. Education & Employment of Children, &c.

The children are educated in reading, writing, Education. and arithmetic, and are then bound out to ship-carpenters, shoemakers, smiths, taylors, masons, and the sea service, and are also employed in sea fishing.

There is one latin school in that part of the town of Passage, which is in Monkstown parish, kept by a Catholic clergyman, where the better sort of children are taught at two guineas per quarter. There is also a Catholic charity school in a house built by

subscription: and a writing school for children at from 5s. to 11s. 4½d. per quarter. We have no public library, or collection of Irish or other manuscripts or documents relating to Ireland.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

Advowson.	Marmalane is in the gift of the Dean and Chapter of Cork, and has been lately endowed and made a perpetual curacy, the income of which is paid by tythes. It is not united to any parish. but is adjoining to the parish of Monkstown, which is tythe free, and part of which forms the town of Passage.
Church.	There is a church at Passage, about 98 years built;
Chapel.	a Catholic chapel built about 15 years ago; a glebe of 7 acres, on which are the remains of an old church; and a glebe house built last year by the
Glebe.	curate, where he now resides; for the building of which the Board of First Fruits granted him £500.
Tythes.	The tythes are collected from potatoes, wheat, oats, barley and meadowing, which the curate settles with the parishioners without any dispute.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

Rent of Land.	The mode of agriculture is the same as has been followed these many years back, throughout the south of Ireland. There is one dairy of 28 cows, and a small one of eight. The best land sets at six guineas per acre by lease, the middling at three guineas, and the lowest at 40s.
---------------	--

Market.	Passage is a fair and market town, though no fairs are now held there, but a market is in the town
---------	--

for potatoes, milk and fish. Butchers' meat is sold at three different victuallers' houses, generally one penny, and mostly two pence in the pound, dearer than in Cork.

X. *Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.*

The principal trade carried on in the town, is the Trade. repairing of vessels, of which a good number in the year come thither for that purpose. Timber ships from Sweden, and the northern powers, always stop and unload at Passage, and many merchant ships belonging to Cork, also take in their cargoes, and discharge there.

XI. *Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.*

List of incumbents, extracted from the First Fruits' Records—

Marmullan rector. John Twinebrook, a bachelor of arts, minister legens. church and cancell. ruyned. valet. £4.

Johes. Twynbrooke admiss. 20 July, 1615. rector. de Murmullan rector. de Titeskin. vic. de eadem.

Sirchus Gisland admiss. 15 Decembr. 1618, rector de Marmullan.

Thomas Bennet admiss. fuit. 3^o Febr. 1636, ad. rect. integr. de Marmullane, dioc. Cork.

Robertus Crewe admiss. 3^o Jan. 1637, ad rector. Marmullan, dioc. et com. Cork.

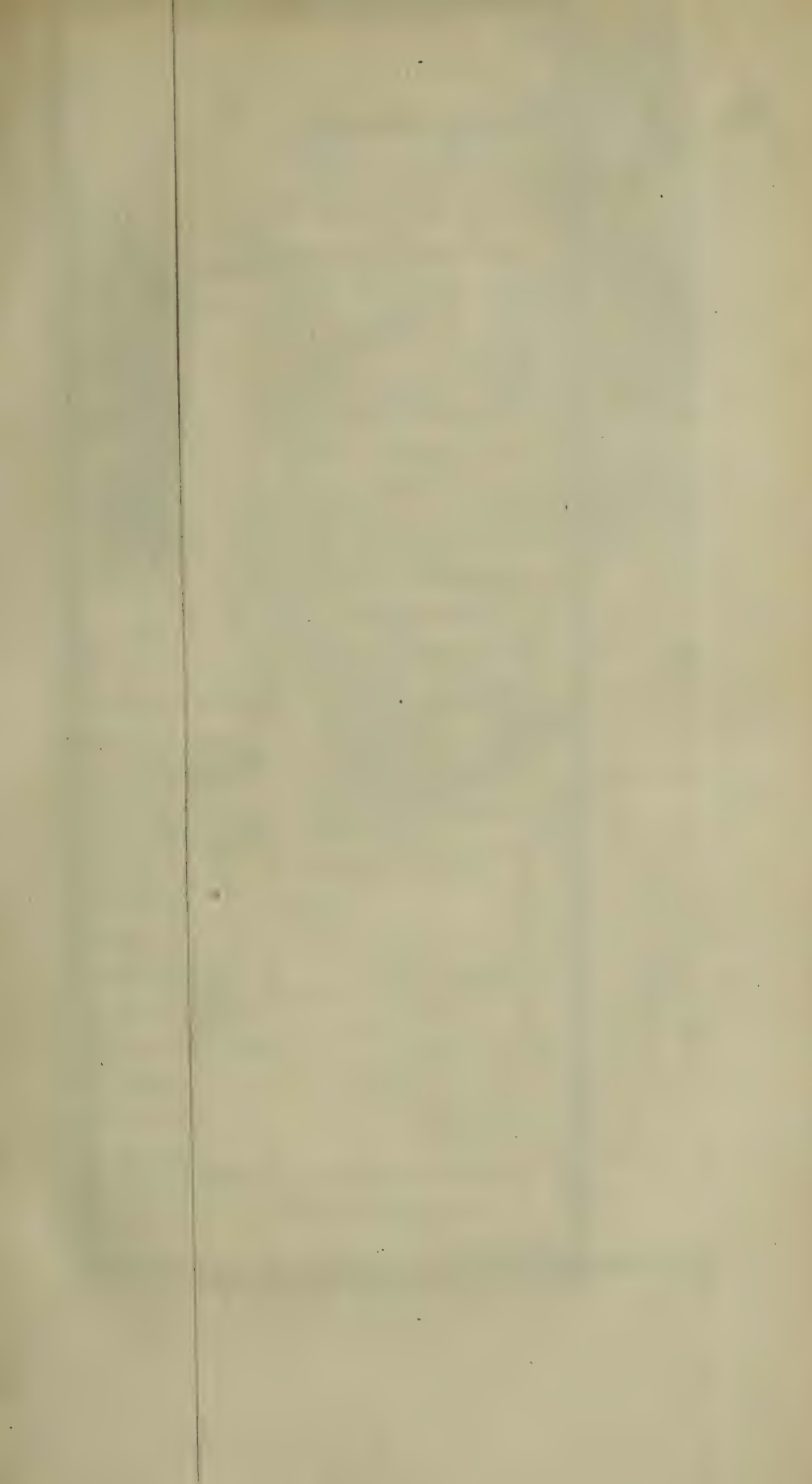
XII. *Suggestions for Improvement, and means for meliorating the condition of the People.*

None.

APPENDIX.

TOWNLANDS, &c. IN THE PARISH OF MARMALANE.

Name of the Townland,	Derivation and English Name.	Chief Proprietors' Names.	No. of Acres.	No. of Houses.	No. of Families.
Pembroke, Ardmore,	The large high hill,	Thomas P. Boland, and George } Stamers, Esqrs. } Dominick Sarsfield, and Thos. } Rochfort, Esqrs. }	249 350	127	140
			Total		
			599		
					In the Parish.



- A. Colonel Atkins
B. Robert Courtenay Esq
C. Rev.^d Dr Austin.
D. Roger Adams Esq^r
E. M^{rs} Delany
F. Ja^z Barry Esq^r
G. — Herd Esq^r
H. — Meeks Esq^r
I. Edm^d Coppinger Esq^r
J. John Garde Esq^r
K. Rev.^d R. D. Freeman
L. M^r Ja^z Leahy
M. M^{rs} Garde
N. Bent Ball Esq^r
O. Peter Warren Esq^r
P. W^m Jn^o O'Boy Esq^r
Q. W^m Garde Esq^r
R. Tho^s Poole Esq^r
S. Will^m Welland Esq^r
T. T. Marcus Lynch .
V. Sam^l M^{rs} Call — "
W. G. C. Jeffries — "

MAP
of the
UNION of MIDDLETON
Situate in the Baronies of
Imokilly Barrymore
and
COUNTY of CORK



*N. B. Half the Parish of Ballyspillane
is Improprate Tithes.*

Ja^s Wyld del^t

Templecarriga Glebe	24	1	6
Midleton	14	1	34
Ballynacurra	5	0	37
Churchtown	0	3	34

No. XII.

UNION OF

M I D D L E T O N,

(Diocese of Cloyne, and County of Cork,)

BY THE REV. ROBERT AUSTEN, RECTOR.

I. *Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

THE parish of Middleton, from which this union Name. derives its name, is situated in the diocese of Cloyne, Situation. in the barony of Imokilly and county of Cork, and is united to the parishes of Mogessy, Templena-Union, carrigy, Ballyspillane, and Inchimorbacky, all of which are situated in the barony of Barrymore, in the county of Cork, and within the diocese of Cloyne. The union is thus bounded; on the north Boundaries by the parish of Templeboden; on the east by the parishes of Dungourney and Castlemartyr; on the south by the parishes of Cloyne and Ahada, and by the channel which separates it from the great island of Cove, and on the west by the parish of Carrigtowhill, and the Ahannachora or Middleton river. The river separates a part of the union of Middleton (Templenacarrigy parish) from the parish of Lisgoold. The union extends five miles from north Extent. to south, and four miles from east to west; though

Contents. in some places not more than one mile in breadth. It contains forty-three townlands, and thirteen thousand acres of arable, meadow, and pasture land, and about five hundred acres of mountain.

Rivers. Avannachora, commonly called the Middleton river, has its source in the bog of Peafield, in the parish of Templeboden. It takes a southern course, dividing the parishes of Templenacarrigy and Lisgoold, and is encreased by many rivulets, till passing by the west side of the town of Middleton, it is lost in the channel about a mile lower down. Rocksborough river takes its rise amongst the mountains of Clonmult, in the parish of Clonmult. It takes a southern course for about four miles, and then turns to the west, till at length it passes by the southern extremity of the town of Middleton; and about five hundred yards farther on joins the Middleton river;

Harbour. these rivers produce salmon and trout. The junction is formed at about a quarter of a mile distant from the harbour of Ballinacurra. Brigs of two hundred tons burden come up to this harbour with coals, and when they can obtain no other freight, take back corn. Limestone is also taken as ballast, and sold on their arrival in England. Ballinacurra harbour communicates with the Cove of Cork, by a passage called the East Ferry, between the great island of Cove, and the main land. The tide rises at Ballinacurra quay, from eight to twelve feet.

Mountains. The mountains in the parish of Templenacarrigy are Welshtownbeg, and Welshtownmore. They are situated in the north east extremity of the union of Middleton, and run north and south. These moun-

tains are heathy and barren, but supply a great part of the neighbourhood with turf. They might easily be reclaimed, and brought under pasture and tillage, if let by the landlords to the poorer class at a very low rent. In the union of Middleton are the bogs Bogs, &c. of Churchtown, and Ballybutler, which supply a part of the neighbourhood with turf. Ballybutler, about a mile south-east of the town of Middleton, affords a good deal of fir, being near the surface, in a horizontal position. It is used instead of candles by the poor. Forest trees of every species appear Trees. to thrive well in the union of Middleton. The air Climate. is temperate, snow is unusual, and continues but a short time.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

There are several limestone quarries. The stone Limestone. is of a liver, black, or grey colour.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

The Middleton infirmary and dispensary, at the Infirmary. north end of the town, is a charitable and useful establishment, where advice and medicine are given to the poor gratis. A physician and surgeon attend every morning (Sundays excepted) from nine to eleven o'clock, to prescribe for, and dress such patients as attend. This establishment is supported by subscription. A subscriber paying three guineas per annum, can recommend sick and necessitous poor as inside patients. These are lodged and dieted, and receive advice and medicine till cured. A subscriber paying one guinea per annum, can recom-

mend any poor sick person as an extern patient. The subscribers meet every three months, to settle the accounts of the establishment. There is another charitable institution supported by the gentlemen of the neighbourhood, for distributing provisions gratis to the poor, during times of necessity, and clothes, blankets, and coals at first cost, at all times. The clothes, &c. are paid for by small weekly instalments.

Town.

The town of Middleton is situated in latitude 51°. 45' N. and longitude 8°. 15' W. It derives its name from being midway between Cork and Youghall, being twelve miles distant from each. It is a manor, post, market, and fair town. It is well built, and pleasantly situated. The town consists of one long street, running from the north to the south bridge. A river runs at each end, and the tide flows

Charter.

up to the town. This town was erected into a corporation by the interest of Sir John Brodrick, who re-built the church and steeple, and the greater part of the town. It is governed by a sovereign and two bailiffs. It was also incorporated by King James, II. whose charter of 1687 appoints Sir James Cotter, knight, the sovereign, and Philip Roche and Dominick White, merchants, the bailiffs. But this charter soon fell into disuse. There is a good meat

Market.

and fish market, and a good market-house built of hewn stone. Here also are corn stores, boulding mills, and a brewery. Some years ago a very spirited attempt was made, by Marcus Lynch, Esq. a Cork merchant of respectable character, to establish the woollen manufacture here, on a scale of great magnitude. For this purpose a large building was erected, with complete machinery, &c. Whether

**Woollen
Manufac-
tory.**

however, it was owing to the scale being too great for a first effort, or to other unforeseen difficulties, the speculation by no means answered expectation. The consequences would probably have been of a very serious nature, if it had not been for the liberality of government, which paid the full amount that Mr. Lynch had expended, and converted the establishment into a military station.*

Here is a public free school, a good building, composed of one main structure and two returns; it was founded by the Lady Elizabeth Villiards, in 1709. This lady was eldest daughter of Sir Edward Villiards, the father of Edward Earl of Jersey; was maid of honour to Queen Mary when Princess of Orange; and in 1695, was married to Lord George Hamilton, afterwards created Earl of Orkney. She expended a considerable sum in building the house, and settled a good estate for its endowment, to support a master, and two ushers assistants, and also a writing master. Fifty pounds a year were appropriated for scholars from this school entered into the University of Dublin; she reserved to herself a power of making rules for the government of the school. The Governors appointed by the charter were, the Earls of Orkney and Inchiquin, Thomas Brodrick, Allen Brodrick, and Samuel Maynard, Esqrs. and lieutenant Peter Bettesworth, and their respective heirs, together with the Bishop of Cork, and the sovereign of Middleton. The Governors nominate the master, who has a salary of one hundred pounds per annum. An usher has twenty

Free
School.

* It is peculiarly adapted to regiments preparing for embarkation.

pounds per annum; ten pounds per annum are allotted for the repairs of the house, and fifty pounds are to be distributed in exhibitions to scholars of this house in Dublin College, as the majority of the Governors shall direct; but no more than fifteen pounds are to be paid to one person; and if there be no such scholars, the money is to go to such charitable uses, as the Governors shall direct. The estate bequeathed to this school consists of the lands of Ballynahortig, Ballyneriguine, Ballynemueile, and sixty-four acres of Tullaghleane; all lying in the baronies of Kinnelea, and Kerricurrihy; and also the whole of the lands leased by King James II. to Sir Richard Meade, at the rent of £100 per annum; the lands of Ballysabeg and Kilgoban in the barony of Carberry, containing 331 acres, and all the other lands in the said barony, formerly let to William North, Esq. at £100 per annum, by King James II. The reputation of this school has sometimes been very high: like other institutions, it is fluctuating, and is not at present in a flourishing state.

The church is a neat well-built structure, with pews and galleries, and a steeple capable of holding a ring of bells. On the gospel side of the altar, is this inscription, inscribed on white marble.

Elizabeth Atkins alias Conningsby, Wife to Walter Atkins, Clerk and Incumbent of this Parish; of the Family of Hampton Court, County Hereford, England;

A sincere Friend,
A prudent Mistress,
A tender Mother,
A dutiful Wife,
A true Christian,

Died in fervent faith and devotion
November the 4th, 1783.

William Hutchinson, first Sovereign of the town of Middleton, lies interred in the chancel. He died March 9, 1690, and was born anno 1631. Upon a handsome tomb in the church ground is this inscription—

D. O. M.

Elizabeth Dawson, Pia, Innocuæ,
Matri Amantissimæ, Uxori Charissimæ,
Quæ Annos Vixit 39;
Febri Correpta, Obiit 26 Martii 1748;
Posuit Mæstissimus Conjux
Robertus Berkley, D. D.

At the east side of the grave yard is the family burial place of his Grace Charles Brodrick Lord Archbishop of Cashel; and that of Sir Brodrick Chinnery, Bart. On a marble stone in front of the latter, is this inscription—

This very small tribute is paid by
Broderick Chinnery, Esq.
To the memory of his late dearly beloved Wife
Mrs. Margaret Chinnery,
To mark as sacred this spot
As the burying place of her and her family.
On the first of October, 1783, she died
Most truly and most deservedly lamented;
And within these walls
Her beloved remains lie now entombed.
Herein lie also
The bodies of their two eldest children
Nicholas and Margaret Chinnery,
Both
Deservedly beloved, and sincerely lamented.
Ah Margareta! Uxorum Optima
Vale!
Mulierum Amantissima
Vale, Vale!
Infantes Charissimi
Valete.

On the grave stones are the names of Lewis, Downing, Hill, Harrold, Pritchard, Martin, &c.

Ancient Name. The Irish still call this town Castranachore, *i. e.* the castle of the Ford. From thence an adjacent

Abbey. abbey was called Chore Abbey; in Irish Monastre ni chora. In the records it is called Monasterium de chora sancti Benedicti Beat. Mar. Virg. It was a branch of the abbey of Neany or Magi in the county of Limerick; the Monks for occupying the abbey having been furnished out of that house. This abbey was founded about the year 1180, by the Fitz-Geralds, according to Ware, and by the Barrys, according to Joscelyn. Gerald Fitz-Richards, Bishop of Cloyne, appropriated the vicarages of Clonmult, Dangin, Donelbarn, and Ballyspillane,

Village. to this house, anno 1476. About a mile south of Middleton, is the village of Ballinacurra, pleasantly situated on the banks of the Middleton river. Here are corn stores and malt houses; and brigs of 200

Public houses. tons burden, can safely sail up to the quay. There is in the town of Middleton an inn, for the accommodation of travellers; and twenty public houses for the sale of malt and spirituous liquors. In the village of Ballinacurra, are six public houses. The use of spirits is very prevalent.

Gentlemen's Seats Adjacent to the village of Ballinacurra, is the seat of John Garde, Esq. The house is an old structure, and the demesne thinly planted. Middleton lodge is the seat of Marcus Lynch, Esq.; the demesne is elegantly planted, and the walks are most judiciously laid out. It is situated about 200 yards east of the town of Middleton, and on the road leading from Middleton to Youghall. Cahirmone, belonging to Lord Middleton, is one mile east of Middleton; it is an old family residence, and is now in the possession of

Thomas Poole, Esq. agent to his lordship. Near this is Rocksborough, a pleasant seat, belonging to Bent Ball, Esq. One mile north of Middleton, is Ballyedmond, the seat of Robert Courtenay, Esq. The house and offices have been built within a short time: on these and the gardens, no expense has been spared, and they display the highest degree of modern elegance. The house is situated on the higher part of the ground, commanding a most extensive and beautiful view of the country for some miles. The demesne is elegantly planted with a variety of forest and other trees. The Middleton river winds in the hollow, through a very romantic glen. The valley is well wooded on both sides: and a new line of road has been lately opened through it to Termody, under the auspices of Mr. Courtenay. About two miles north of this, and on the road to Ratheormuck, is Seadenton, the seat of Maurice Uniacke Atkin, Esq. The house is very small, and the view limited. The demesne is thickly planted with forest trees. West Glebe, of Middleton, about 530 yards from the church, and on the road to Cork, is the glebe-house, the residence of the present incumbent, the Rev. Dr. Austen. The house is good, with a glebe of 14 A. 1 R. 34 P. It is well planted, beautifully situated, and commands a fine view of the surrounding country.

The principal roads leading from the town of *Roads.* Middleton through the union to other towns are as follow:—The road to the city of Cork, 12 miles west of Middleton: this road is 32 feet wide, and in good repair. The road to Youghal, 12 miles east of Middleton: this road also is 32 feet wide, and in good repair. The road to Cloyne, 3 miles south of

Middleton: this road is 21 feet wide, and in good repair. The road to Tallow, 12 miles north-east of Middleton: this road is 21 feet wide, and in bad repair. The road to Fermoy, which runs through Rathcormuck, north-west of Middleton, 14 miles long, is 21 feet in breadth, and in tolerably good repair. These roads are repaired by presentments. The materials used in making them are broken stones and gravel laid on the surface. The rate of repairing, which is estimated by the perch, is various.

Bridges. There are two bridges in the union; one at the north end of the town of Middleton, the other at the south end. The date of their building is not well known.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

Castles. Some of the articles belonging to this section have been mentioned in the foregoing one. There are three castles in the union; one at west Ballyvoduck, another in the demesne of Cahirmone, and the third at Coppingerstown. It is not known at what time they were built.

V. *Present & Former State of Population, Food, Fuel, &c.*

Population The reputed number of inhabitants in the union of Middleton is 5000; of these 2000 are females. The

Occupation general occupation is agriculture. The middle class is in easy circumstances; the lower class gains a livelihood by labour, for which there is a good demand in consequence of the extensive tillage in the union.

Food. This class however is poor, and lives chiefly on potatoes and milk. The inhabitants are healthy and

Health. generally long lived.

VI. *The Genius & Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.*

The poorer class is quick-witted, cunning, hospitable, credulous, brave, and full of resentment. The English language is generally understood and spoken; the lower class commonly speak Irish.

VII. *The Education and Employment of Children, &c.*

The free school of Middleton has already been mentioned under Section III. There are several hedge schools in the union, which continue only during the summer season. The books generally read in these schools are Catholic.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

The patron of the union is the Lord Bishop of Cloyne. The church has been described under Section III. as has also the glebe-house.

		<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Roods.</i>	<i>Perches.</i>	
Middleton glebe consists of		14	1	34	Glebe.
Templenacarriggy ditto ...		24	1	6	
Ballinacurra ditto		5	0	37	
Churchtown ditto		0	3	34	
Total ...		44	3	31	

The tytheable articles are, potatoes, wheat, barley, oats, and hay. There is a Roman Catholic chapel at the south end of the town of Middleton. It was built in 1803, and has since been kept in good repair. There are two resident Roman Catholic clergymen, the parish priest and the curate.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

Crops.	The crops chiefly cultivated are potatoes, wheat, barley, and oats. Though the common Irish plough still maintains its ground in this union, the era of improvement is advancing. English and Scotch ploughs have been introduced by enlightened agriculturists, and the great inferiority of the Irish plough is too obvious to be overlooked where there is frequent opportunity of making the comparison.
Implements.	
Rents.	
Cattle.	
Manure.	
Prices of Provisions.	The highest acreable rent of the best land is about £3; of the middling £1, 14s. 1½d.; and of the poorest kind £1. Fields near the town of Middleton let for £4, and £4, 11s. the English acre. The cattle are, cows, horses, sheep, and pigs. The sea supplies sand and weeds for manure. There is abundance of limestone; for the burning of which culm is procured. The use of lime has lately very much increased; besides which, dung, sand, and earthy collections, are employed as fertilizing composts. Potatoes are sold in Middleton market at 5d. per weight of 21lb.; wheat generally about £2, 10s. per bag of 20 stone; barley about £2, 10s. per barrel of 36 stone; and Oats at £2 per barrel of 33 stone. The only market town in the union is Middleton. Every Saturday throughout the year is market day. There are also four fairs held in this town every year; on the 14th of May, the 5th of July, the 10th of October, and the 22d of November respectively.
Market.	

X. *Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.*

The points deserving of observation, with respect to the subjects of this section, have been already noticed in those preceding.

XI. Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.

List of Incumbents, as extracted from the First Incum-
bents.
Fruits' Records—

Donatus O'Connor clicus admiss. fuit, 22^o die Dec. 1629, psentacon. pnobil. viri comitis Corke vicar. ecclie. polis. de Ballispyllane in dioces. et com. Corke.

Donatus O'Connor, admiss. fuit 20 Feb 1629, stilo Anglico, &c. per lras. patent. dni. Ris. vicar. respe. de Doungettie, 8s. 9d. als Templegall et Inshenabathey 26s. 8d. in dioc. Clon. et co. Corke.

Augustin. Kingsmell, sen. admiss. 15^o April, 1637, ad rect. respe. de Dungny-Donovane, Clonmolt et Ballyspyllane, dioces. Clonen. et com. Corke; non taxant.

Daniel Considon, admiss. fuit 29^o die —, 1667, ad vicar. de Ballyspyllane et Templebodan, dioces. Clonen. et com. Corke, 40s. ster.

Gualter. Atkin, cler. admiss. fuit 27^o Xembr. 1698, ad vicar. de Castracore, als Middletowne, 40s. rector. integr. de Mogesha vicar. de Ballyspellane.

Thomas Cooper, cler. admiss. fuit 2^o Febris. 1701, ad vicar. de Inchinebacke, com. Corke, 20s.

5^o July, 1710, Gualterus Atkin, clicus. in art. mager. admissus fuit ad vicariam de Castranachore aut Castrachare als Middletowne, dioc. Clonen. et com. Corke, cum vicariis de Ballyspellane et Inshinebracky, rect. integ. de Mogesha, et rect. integ. de Cariganena als Templenecarigy, vic. de Castrachore als Middletowne, in perpet. unit. tam de facto qm. de jure vacant.

The Rev. Rob. Berkeley, clerk, Doctor of Divinity,

was collated and instituted on the 6th January, 1741, unto the rectory of Cariganenagh otherwise Temple-necarigy, the rectory of Mogeasagh, the vicarage of Ballyspellane, the rectory and vicarage of Inchynebacky, and the rectory and vicarage of Castrachore aforesaid.

Rob. Law, D. D. collated 27 Sept. 1787, Treasurership Cath. Church, St. Coleman, Cloyne, £3, r. Cariganenagh oth. Temple-necarigy, r. Mogeasagh, v. Ballyspellane, r. Inchinebackey, v. same, r. Castrachore, v. same.

Hon. Cha. Brodrick, A. M. collated 18 June, 1789, Treasurership Cath. ch. St. Coleman, Cloyne, £3, r. Temple-necarigy, r. Mogeasagh, v. same, v. Ballyspellane, r. Castrachore, v. same, r. Inchinebackey, v. same, now called the parish of Middleton.

Luke Godfrey, coll. 20 July, 1795, Treasurership Cath. St. Coleman, Cloyne, £3, r. Carrigenagh oth. Temple-necarigy, r. Mogeasagh, v. Ballyspellane, v. Inchinabacky.

John Wm. Bennet, A. M. instituted 28 Jan. 1799, Union of Middletown.

Rev. Robert Austen was collated the 24 July, 1810, to the Treasurership of the Cathedral Church of St. Coleman, Cloyne, in the dioc. of Cloyne, and co. Cork, vice the Rev. John William Bennet, who held from 28 January, 1799, and vacated by death.

XII. Suggestions for Improvement, and Means for meliorating the Condition of the People.

None.

APPENDIX.

TABLE OF TOWNLANDS.

1. MOGESSY.

Name. *Derivation.*

Rossmore	Great plain.
West Ballintubber	Town of the spring, or fountain, west.
East Ballintubber	Town of the spring, or fountain, east.
West Ballyvodig	Turftown, west.
East Ballyvodig	Turftown, east.
Ballyannon	Not obvious.
Knockgriffin	Criomhthanes, or Griffins hill.

2. MIDDLETON.

Banard	White hill.
Ballinacurra	Cranestown.
Inegrega	Island of superstition, or of the Greeks.
Gerah	Short ford.
Knockgurn	Blue hill.
Knocksturkin	Hill of the little steer.
Ballybutler	Butler's-town.
Ballyedekin	Edkin's-town.
White Rock	Meaning obvious.
Coppingerstown	Meaning obvious.
Carrigshane	Stormy rock.
Castleredmond	Meaning obvious.
Deerpark	Meaning obvious.
Broomfield	Meaning obvious.
Killeagh	Grey church or wood.

3. INCHINABACKKEY.

Bilberry	} Meaning obvious.
Rocksborough	
Stumpbill	

4. BALLYSPILLANE.*

Ballyspillane	Town of the little scythe.
Gurtacrew	Garden or field of the fold or flock.
Elfordstown	Meaning obvious.
Killindooling	Dooling's small church.
Barnashelane	Gap of the halter.

5. TEMPLENACARRIGY.

Walshtownmore	Great Walshtown.
Walshtown Beg	Little Walshtown.
Leadenton	} Meaning obvious.
Old Court	
Shanavagha	Not obvious.
Ballytrasna	Stretched-town.
Carrigcondon	Condon's-rock.
Glanavulling	Vale of the milk.
Templenacarrigy	Church of the rock.
Ballyedmond	Edmondstown.
Rathguire	Cranestown.
Ballymacslaney	Town of the flat stones or slates.
Carrigogina	Sharp-pointed rock.

* Half of this parish impropriate tythes.

GENERAL SURVEY OF THE UNION OF MIDDLETON.

BEING THE RESULT OF AN ENQUIRY INTO THE STATE OF THE CROPS IN 1816.

No. 1. PARISH OF MOGESSY.

In what Barony or Baronies situate.		BARRYMORE.	
Greatest Length—Two Miles.		Greatest Breadth—Half a Mile.	
<div> <div> <div>North, by the Parish of Carrigtowhill.</div> <div>East, by the Parish of Middleton.</div> <div>South, by the Channel.</div> <div>West, by the Channel.</div> </div> <div>Boundaries</div> </div>			
Number of Townlands or other Divisions. { Seven.		QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF THE LAND, &c.	
1816.	No. of Acres.	Probable Quantity of Produce per Acre.	Remarks on the Quality of the Crops, &c.
Wheat.....	393	Good Crop of Wheat, 7 bags per acre.	Crops suffered from continual wet weather. 4 bags per acre, an average for Wheat. 3 bags per acre, an average for Barley. 3 bags per acre, an average for Oats. 40 barrels per acre, an average for Potatoes. Which are below the average quantity per acre, any season these five years past. N. B. Bag of Wheat..... 20 stone. Barrel of Barley 36 stone. Barrel of Oats 33 stone. Barrel of Potatoes,.... 12 weights. Each weight of Potatoes 21 lbs.
Barley.....	366	Middling, 4 bags per acre.	
Oats.....	106	Bad, 2 bags per acre.	
Potatoes.....	664	Good crop of Barley, 4 barrels per acre.	
Flax.....		Middling, 3 barrels per acre.	
Rape.....		Bad, 2 barrels per acre.	Crops suffered from continual wet weather. 4 bags per acre, an average for Wheat. 3 bags per acre, an average for Barley. 3 bags per acre, an average for Oats. 40 barrels per acre, an average for Potatoes. Which are below the average quantity per acre, any season these five years past. N. B. Bag of Wheat..... 20 stone. Barrel of Barley 36 stone. Barrel of Oats 33 stone. Barrel of Potatoes,.... 12 weights. Each weight of Potatoes 21 lbs.
Peas and Vetches.....		Good crop of Oats, 4 barrels per acre.	
Fallow Land.....		Middling, 3 barrels per acre.	
Meadow.....	158	Bad, 2 barrels per acre.	
Mountain Pasture.....		Good crop of Potatoes, 60 barrels per acre.	
Bog.....		Middling, 40 barrels per acre.	
Unprofitable.....		Bad, 20 barrels per acre.	
Total.....	1677		

GENERAL SURVEY—continued.

No. 2. PARISH OF MIDDLETON.

In what Barony or { Baronies situate. }		IMOKILLY AND BARRYMORE.	
Greatest Length--One and a Half Mile.		Greatest Breadth--One Mile.	
North, by the Parishes of Templenacarrigy and Ballyspillane. East, by the Parish of Inchinabachy. South, by the Parish of Cloyne. West, by the Parish of Mogessy.			
Number of Townlands { Fifteen. or other Divisions. }		QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF THE LAND, &c.	
1516.	No. of Acres.	Probable Quantity of Produce per Acre.	Remarks on the Quality of the Crops, &c.
Arable Land under Cul- tivation. { Wheat Barley Oats Potatoes Flax Rape Peas and Velches Fallow Land Meadow Mountain Pasture Bog Unprofitable Total.....	327	Good Wheat produces 7 bags per acre.	The same as stated in the Table for the Parish of Mogessy.
	473	Middling, 4 bags per acre.	
	271	Bad, 2 bags per acre.	
	597	Good Barley, 4 barrels per acre.	
		Middling, 3 barrels per acre.	
		Bad, 2 barrels per acre.	
		Good Oats, 4 barrels per acre.	
		Middling, 3 barrels per acre.	
	421	Bad, 2 barrels per acre.	
		Good Potatoes, 60 barrels per acre.	
	Middling, 40 barrels per acre.		
	Bad, 20 barrels per acre.		

GENERAL SURVEY --continued.

No. 3. PARISH OF INCHINABACHY.

In what Barony or Barones situate. {		BARRYMORE.	
Greatest Length— Two Miles.		Greatest Breadth— A Quarter of a Mile.	
<div> <div>Boundaries</div> <div> <div>North, by the Parish of Carrigtownhill.</div> <div>East, by the Parish of Middletown.</div> <div>South, by the Channel.</div> <div>West, by the Channel.</div> </div> </div>			
Number of Townlands { Three. or other Divisions.		QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF THE LAND, &c.	
1816.	No. of Acres.	Probable Quantity of Produce per Acre.	Remarks on the Quality of the Crops, &c.
<div> <div>Arable Land</div> <div> <div>Wheat</div> <div>Barley</div> <div>Oats</div> <div>Potatoes</div> <div>Flax</div> <div>Rape</div> <div>Fes and Vetches</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>51</div> <div>82</div> <div>100</div> <div>139</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>	<div> <div>Good Crop of Wheat produces 7 bags per acre.</div> <div>Middling, 4 bags per acre.</div> <div>Bad, 2 bags per acre.</div> <div>Good crop of Barley, 4 barrels per acre.</div> <div>Middling, 3 barrels per acre.</div> <div>Bad, 2 barrels per acre.</div> <div>Good crop of Oats, 4 barrels per acre.</div> <div>Middling, 3 barrels per acre.</div> <div>Bad, 2 barrels per acre.</div> <div>Good crop of Potatoes, 60 barrels per acre.</div> <div>Middling, 40 barrels per acre.</div> <div>Bad, 20 barrels per acre.</div> </div>	<div>The same as stated in the Table for the Parish of Mogessey.</div>
Total.....	451		

GENERAL SURVEY - continued.

No. 4. PARISH OF BALLYSPILLANE.

In what Barony or Baronies situate. {		BARRYMORE.		Greatest Breadth—Half a Mile.
Greatest Length—One Mile.				
Boundaries { North, by the Parish of Templenacarriggy. East, by the Parish of Dungourney. South, by the Parish of Middleton. West, by the Parish of Templenacarriggy.				
		Number of Townlands { Five. or other Divisions. }		
		QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF THE LAND, &c.		
1816.	No. of Acres.	Probable Quantity of Produce per Acre.	Remarks on the Quality of the Crops, &c.	
Wheat	10	Good Crop of Wheat produces 6 bags per acre.	The same as stated in the Table for the Parish of Mogessy.	
Barley	141	Middling, 4 bags per acre.		
Oats	183	Bad, 2 bags per acre.		
Potatoes	176	Good Crop of Barley, 4 barrels per acre.		
Flax		Middling, 3 barrels per acre.		
Rape		Bad, 2 barrels per acre.		
Peas and Vetches		Good Crop of Oats, 4 barrels per acre.		
Fallow Land		Middling, 3 barrels per acre.		
Meadow	35	Bad, 2 barrels per acre.		
Mountain Pasture		Good Crop of Potatoes, 60 barrels per acre.		
Bog		Middling, 40 barrels per acre.		
Unprofitable.....		Bad, 20 barrels per acre.		
Total.....	545			

GENERAL SURVEY—continued. No. 5. PARISH OF TEMPLENACARRIGY.

In what Barony or { Baronies situate. }		BARRYMORE.	
Greatest Length—Two and a Half Miles.		Greatest Breadth—Half a Mile.	
{ Boundaries }		North, by the Parish of Templeboden. East, by the Parishes of Dungeuney and Ballyspillane. South, by the Parish of Middleton. West, by the Parish of Lisgoold.	
Number of Townlands { or other Divisions.} Thirteen.			
QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF THE LAND, &c.			
1816.	No. of Acres.	Probable Quantity of Produce per Acre.	Remarks on the Quality of the Crops, &c.
{ Arable Land now under Cultivation }	Wheat	14	The same as stated in the Table for the Parish of Mogessy.
	Barley	244	
	Oats	433	
	Potatoes	400	
	Flax		
	Rape		
	Peas and Vetches		
	Fallow Land	192	
	Meadow	500	
	Mountain		
	Bog		
	Unprofitable		
	Total	1783	

No. XIII.

UNION OF

NOUGHAVAL AND CARRUNE,

(Diocese of Kilfenora, and County of Clare,)

BY THE REV. ROBERT GABBETT, LATE RECTOR.



I. *Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

THE ancient and modern names of these parishes are Noughaval and Carrune. Both are situated in the county of Clare, barony of Burren, and diocese of Kilfenora; they join each other, and are situated about from $9^{\circ} 14'$ to $9^{\circ} 28'$ west longitude, and from $52^{\circ} 49'$ to $52^{\circ} 55'$ north latitude. Noughaval is bounded on the east by the parish of Carrune, on the west by that of Kilfenora, on the north by that of Rathbourny, on the south by that of Kilnaboy. Carrune parish is bounded on the east by the county of Galway, on the west by the parish of Noughaval, on the north by that of Kilcorney and Octimanna, and on the south by the parishes of Kilnaboy and Kilkeedy.

The extent of Noughaval is about three miles by two; that of Carrune is about six miles by three.

- Soil.** In the former of these parishes, the proportion of tillage or meadow land is very small, the whole being mostly a limestone rocky pasture. Such parts as are capable of being tilled, produce potatoes, oats, and bere; there are about 15 acres of meadow land in it, and about 80 acres of pasturable mountain. The latter parish has a much less proportion of tillage, and no meadow land; almost the whole consists of extremely rocky pasture, all of a limestone soil, which answers well for sheep. There are about 80 acres of pasturable mountain in Noughaval, and about 20 acres of bog in the same parish.
- Bog.**

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

None.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

- Roads.** One road passes through Noughaval, from the village of Carraffin to the Bay of Galway, and another through Carrune to and from the same places, with a road branching off from Noughaval through Carrune.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

- Ruins.** In Noughaval are the ruins of an old church, connected with which is a glebe land, consisting of about twenty-seven acres, in five divisions; and, except about two acres, it consists entirely of rocky pasture.
- Castle.** There is one castle, and the ruins of two more, and
- Raths.** three of what are called Danish forts. In Carrune are the remains of three old churches, a small glebe of about one acre and a half, and the remains of two

old castles, and five of what are called Danish forts. There are no traditions current with respect to any of these.

V. Present & Former State of Population, Food, &c.

The parish of Noughaval contains about 50 in- Population
habited houses or cabins, and about 295 inhabitants,
of whom about 148 are males, 147 females, all Roman
Catholics. Carrune contains about 118 inhabited
houses, and about 719 inhabitants, of whom about 371
are males, and 348 females, all Roman Catholics;
this number includes men, women, and children; Employment.
their occupations are farming, labour and herding.
Most of the land in these parishes being pasture, is
tenanted by persons residing in other parts of the
county, consequently herding constitutes the em-
ployment of a considerable number of the inhabitants;
but there are some comfortable wealthy resident
farmers: with the exception of these, the inhabitants
are in general poor and indifferently dressed, and
always live on potatoes and milk. They are in gene- Food,
ral healthy, but the writer has not heard of any ex- Health.
traordinary instances of longevity.

VI. The Genius & Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.

The inhabitants in general appear to be industrious Language,
and well-disposed. The language used by the people
in general is the Irish. There are no particular
customs, patrons, or patron days, nor have any tradi-
tions of a local nature been handed down, which
might serve to throw light on the manners or habits
of the people here.

VII. *Education and Employment of Children, &c.*

School. The children have no particular employment, except that of assisting their parents occasionally in the labours of the field. There is no endowed school in Noughaval, and but one private school, containing about thirty scholars; the quarterly salary is from 1s. 7½d. to 3s. 3d.; in Carrune, is another private school, containing about forty scholars, at the same quarterly rates. In both of these the children are instructed in reading English, writing, and arithmetic.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tithes, &c.*

Chapels. There is no Protestant place of worship, it being unnecessary, as there is not one Protestant inhabitant in these parishes; there is a Roman Catholic chapel in the parish of Noughaval. In Carrune there is also a Roman Catholic chapel.

Tithe. The tythe of the tillage and meadow land is viewed and valued, and let to the parishioners yearly. The tythe of sheep, which contributes a considerable proportion to that of those parishes, is rated at so much per hundred, the average number being taken from frequent views in the course of the year, and an agreement then made with the parishioner for them: they are set by the year. These parishes are

Adowson. in the gift of the Bishop of Killaloe and Kilfenora, and they are the corpse of the chantership of Kilfenora.

IX. Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.

The rent of the land differs extremely in these parishes, owing to the rockiness of by much the greater part of the soil. In Noughaval the best land lets at about four pounds per acre; the second quality at about two pounds, and the third quality at about thirty shillings: in Carrune the best at about two pounds; the second quality at about one pound, and the third, at about ten shillings per acre.

Rent of Land.

The small share of agriculture is of the old mode; they make their manure from straw and fern: the stock is mostly sheep, but in some parts where the land is good, cows are fattened. There are neither markets nor fairs in these parishes.

Mode of Agriculture.

X. Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.

None.

XI. Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.

List of Incumbents, extracted from the First Fruits' Records—

By certificate of Edward lord archbishop of Tuam, and bishop of Fenebore, dated the 25th day of May, 1724, from the 3d day of July, 1723, dignitas precentoriat. eccliae. Cathlis. sancti Fecknan. Feneboren. necon vicariae eccliarum. parlium. de Noughvaile, Carne, Kiltoraght, Clouney, Kilmainheen, et Killaspuglenane in comitatu Clare et diocesis. nra. Feneboren. per mortem naturalem Roberti Couperthwaite elici ultimi ibm. incumbentis jam vacan.

Incumbents.

George Fowler collated 29th May, 1772, chanter Kilfenora v. Carrune, v. Kiltoraght, v. Clouney, v. Killonoghan, v. Killaspughenane. R. Noughvaill, v. Noughvaill, Clare co.

James Kenny, instituted 28th June, 1785, R. Killeilagh r. Kilmoon r. Carrune.

Michael Davoren collated 3d Sept. 1790, chanter-ship of Kilfenora, r. v. Noughawall, r. v. Carrune.

Robert Gabbett, collated 9th May, 1810, with the rect. and vic. of Naughaval and the vic. of Carrune as the corps thereof, in the dioc. of Kilfenora and co. Clare, vice Michael Davoren, who held from 3d Nov. 1790, and vacated by death.

Simon Holland was collated 1 Sept. 1817, to the chantership of Kifernora, consisting of the re. and v. of Noughaval and v. Carrune, as the corps thereof in the dioc. of Kilfenora and co. Clare, vice Robert Gabbett, A. B. who held same from 9 May 1810, and vacated.

XII. *Suggestions for Improvement, and Means for meliorating the Condition of the Poor.*

The retired situation and small extent of these parishes, prevent the indication of any improvements which would not apply to many other parts of the country. Although the soil is not well adapted for tillage, improved implements of agriculture, and better treatment of the ground, would conduce much to encrease the landholders' comforts, and tend to the prosperity of the country, which would also be promoted by the residence of landed proprietors on their estates, or at least by their frequent visits among the tenantry.

APPENDIX.

TOWNLANDS IN NOUGHAVAL.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Derivation.</i>
Ballygannor	Not obvious.
Sheshaghmore.... ..	Great plough land.
Deerpark	Obvious meaning.
Lismoher.....	Moher's fort or dwelling.
Noughaval	New take.
Ballymurphy	Murphy's town.
Ballymahony.....	Mahony's town.
Rusheen	Little arable ground.

TOWNLANDS IN CARRUNE.

Mugonna	Smithfield.
Ballylina	Spearstown.
Crevat	Place of the branch, or branch place.
Murrarron.....	Not obvious.
Fanygallavane	Ring of promise.
Castletown.... ..	Obvious meaning.
Clounconse.....	Not obvious—perhaps, cause of deceit.
Mugonby	Plain, or field of danger.
Glancullenkilla....	Glen of Hollywood.
Fahy	A district, a field or plain.
Knockanes.....	Little hills.
Kealkella	Kelly's cell or church.
Pullogh	A hollow place, or place full of holes.
Cappagh.... ..	Blocky, a place full of blocks or stamps.
Cushkeam	A pace, or step.
Coolnatolagh.....	Back of the hill.
Cragyill	Rock town.
Ranagh	Ferny, a place where fern grows.
Cahirgrillane.....	Dutch chair.
Cahirmaconnello ..	Mac Conell's chair.
Meggaght.....	Not obvious.
Mohermilan	Lousepark.
Poulavack	Son's hole.
Ballydoura.....	Watertown.
Pouleanarush.	Not obvious.
Poulacarrune	Quarter hole.
Tarmon	Glebe land; or a sanctuary.

No. XIV.

PARISH OF

RATHCLINE,

(Diocese of Ardagh and County of Longford.)

BY THE REV. JAMES FARRELL, VICAR.

I. *Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

- Situation.** THE parish of Rathcline, situate in the barony of the same name, county of Longford, and diocese of Ardagh, forms the most distant part of the county, having been connected with the province of Connaught, and county of Roscommon, by a strong well built bridge across the river Shannon in the year 1706, James Viscount Lanesborough then contributing
- Extent.** £100 towards its expense. The least extent of this parish is two miles, its greatest not more than three. According to the parish registry, it contains about 4500 acres of land, pasture and arable. It has in it
- Bog.** no mountains, hills, or rivers of any note, but there is a considerable tract of bog, abounding in bog-oak and deal, which the poor make use of in roofing their houses.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

The basis of the soil in this parish is entirely lime- Limestone.
stone, consequently a great quantity of lime is burned,
according to the mode generally practiced through-
out the country.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

The only town is Lanesborough, (so called, from Town.
the family of the Lanes, the original proprietors), it
contains about sixty houses, with a population of 300
souls. There are in the town two or three houses Public
Houses.
licensed for the sale of malt and spirituous liquors,
but the use or consumption of spirits is by far the
more prevalent. The public roads in this part of the Roads.
country cannot be called the best; they are gene-
rally about fourteen feet wide, being made of broken
stones, without gravel, at from six to ten shillings
per perch. Within a mile of Lanesborough stands Gentle-
mens' Seats
the residence of Captain Davys, almost on the banks
of the Shannon, commanding a delightful view of
the bridge of Lanesborough and the river. This
mansion is not more remarkable for the beauty and
cultivated appearance of the surrounding country,
than for the urbanity and courteous manner of its
hospitable owner.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

There are few remains of antiquity in this parish; Ruins.
the most remarkable is that called the castle of Rath- Castle.
cline; it was originally a large strong building,

probably erected in the days of the Edwards or Henrys. There was formerly a large tower or steeple adjoining the parish church, which tradition says was partly destroyed by an officer of King James II. from the opposite side of the Shannon, in the county of Roscommon; the part now standing might excite a strong degree of apprehension in the beholder, as to its stability, from an aperture or crack in the middle of it, though it has remained in its present state above 120 years. We have no monastery nor religious houses in the parish. The noble family of Lanesborough were formerly interred in the church; the vault which received their remains is still to be seen. The ruins of a very ancient church are to be seen in the glebe of Ratheline, not far distant from the old castle, where there is also a very ancient burying-place or church-yard.

V. Present & Former State of Population, Food, &c.

Population	From the militia returns, and a census lately made, the number of families in this parish amounts to 360, making a population of about 1800. The land is generally of very inferior quality, which is the principal cause of the poverty of the lower classes of its inhabitants: other causes might also be assigned, which may not be either prudent or proper to touch upon at present. A great part of this parish goes by the name of the Callows, so called, probably from the rocky sterile nature of its soil. The labouring poor here are much employed on the line of the Royal Canal, which runs within two miles of this parish. Potatoes are the general food of the labouring classes, rarely do they enjoy the luxury of milk.
Soil.	
Canal.	
Food.	

Their dress and general appearance on Sundays and holidays is cleanly and decent, considering their circumstances; but their houses are seldom so clean or comfortable as they might be, by a little care and attention. It is much to be regretted that no such class is to be here found as a sturdy independent yeomanry. The prevailing diseases are fevers, which Diseases. may arise from a want of cleanliness, and from the poverty of the inhabitants. The climate is in general Longevity. healthy: some persons live to the advanced age of from 90 to 100 years.

VI. The Genius & Disposition of the Lower Classes, &c.

The people here are for the most part shrewd, sagacious, and well conducted. The English language is universally spoken, and the Irish rather on the decline; at least it is not so much in use as the English. Here are no particular customs, religious assemblies, peculiar festivals, or observances, excepting only the veneration paid to a well, called St. Martin's, whither the poor at some times in the year go to pray. Genius and Disposition

VII. The Education and Employment of Children, &c.

On the subject of education it is to be regretted, that there does not appear a wish or desire for education here as in other places; the truth is, there are not schools, or means of education as in other parts of the country. We have not at this hour in the parish a school-house; there was a wretched school School. kept in the chapel by a Roman Catholic master, the number of children who attended varying according

Rates of
Tuition.

to the seasons of the year, from 20 to 50; the rates of tuition being from one to three shillings per quarter: the pupils were taught reading, writing, and arithmetic. The books they read are not calculated to impress on their tender minds either a sense of religion or virtue; they are generally story books, or some vulgar ill-written histories. In the month of May last, after much trouble and application, the rector succeeded in procuring a Protestant school-master. He opened school, but meeting with no encouragement, and having no school-house, but what he rented at a high price, he declined continuing the school a second week. The rector hopes however, soon to remedy the want of a school-house, as he has written to Mr. Fox (residing in Yorkshire, England, who holds in fee the greater part of this parish) on the neglected state of education here, soliciting his assistance to enable him to build a school-house. He has received a polite answer to his application, and trusts the period is not far distant, when we shall see a school-house in the parish of Rathcline.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c*

Advowson. The Archbishop of Tuam and Ardagh, has the advowson and right of presentation to this parish; two parts of it are improper; the clergyman has only a third part of the tithes; it is not now united as it was heretofore, to Cashell, a neighbouring parish: his Grace the present Archbishop of Tuam and Bishop of Ardagh, disunited them two years ago, in order that each parish might have the advantage of a resident clergyman.

The parish church stands in the town of Lanes-Church-borough, (the most remote part of the parish) close by the banks of the river Shannon; no inconvenience however arises from its situation, as there is not at this moment a single Protestant family in the parish, except that of the rector, and a widow having two sons. This church is large, and in good repair at present; 30 feet wide, nearly 60 in length; it was built in 1678; its original length was much greater, but the chancel has long since been suffered to go to ruin. The glebe consists of 31 A. 3 R. 30 P. *Glebe.* There is no glebe-house, nor is there any trace of such a building ever having existed in the parish. Indeed from the situation of the glebe, on the summit of a high hill, four miles distant from any bog, equally inconvenient to any water, it would be totally impossible for a clergyman having a family, to reside there. The Archbishop, fully aware of these difficulties, has recommended to the rector to effect an exchange of the glebe, for land more advantageously situated.

All kinds of grain in this parish pay tythe; as do *Tythes.* flax, wool, lambs and meadow. The charge is from 12s. to 18s. per acre for wheat; from 12s. to 16s. for barley; from 5s. to 9s. per acre for oats; from 3s. to 8s. for meadow; from 13s. to 16s. for flax—Sheep £2 the hundred, and lambs £2 10. the hundred. The tythe rent is a year due, before it is even called for; it is almost unnecessary to mention the extreme difficulty of getting in money in this way, particularly at the present crisis, when all classes in the community are suffering great privations; and none in the same or equal degree with the clerical order.

Chapel.

There is one Roman Catholic chapel in this parish and a resident Roman Catholic clergyman. There is no other place of religious worship, nor are there any holy wells, or other religious places dedicated to saints, with the exception of St. Martin's well, before mentioned.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

Mode of
Agriculture.

The mode of agriculture throughout this parish, does not differ from what it was a century ago; the prevailing crops are wheat, oats, flax and barley. The quantities per acre are; wheat on an average from 6 to 9 barrels per acre; oats from 8 to 12; barley from 9 to 14 per acre. Land set to farmers brings for the best £3 per acre; for middling ground £2 per acre; and for the worst kind £1 per acre. These lands would not by any means bring so high a rent at the present day.

Rent of
Land.

There is a great want of employment in this parish, owing to the non-residence of men of property. We have no stock of cattle of any account for sale, except sheep, and these of a very inferior kind, caused by the poverty of the soil. The surface of the ground is generally burnt for manure. The price of grain and butcher's meat is very cheap, compared with other years. A fair is held annually on the 12th of February.

Manure.

Fair.

X. *Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.*

Linen
Manufacture.

There are a number of poor weavers in the parish, who bring their linen on the market day to Long-

ford ; the linen here is mostly of a coarse kind, from 9d. to 11d. per yard. Its value at present is much under that price. There is no woollen manufacture, except what is made into frize for the use of the inhabitants.

The river Shannon, which divides Lanesborough from Connaught, being navigable to Dublin, boats from 20 to 60 tons burden, bring goods of every kind, timber, &c from Dublin here, and return loaded with wheat, oats, barley and potatoes. Slates are also frequently brought here from Killaloe, in the county of Clare. There are no fisheries in this neighbourhood, nor any commerce but what is maintained by the few vessels just mentioned.

XI. Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.

List of incumbents, extracted from the First Fruits' Records—

By certificate of Robert Lord Bishop, dated 7^o die Nov. 1663, vicar de Racline in dioc. Ardagh. vac. et sequest. in man. Jacobi Spencer nri. capellani domestici.

Jacobus Milus collat. et institut. fuit 6^o die Junii 1671, ad vicar. de Raghline que jacet in com. de Longford in dioc. Ardagh.

Robtus. Ramsay presbiter collat. fuit 22^o die Martii 1680, ad vicariam de Rathelyne als. Lanesburrough dioc. et com. supra.

Eliah Handcock, A. M. collat. fuit 4^o die mensis Novem. anno. 1727 ad vicar. de Ratheline et Cashell in com. Longf.

Rich. Knight, was collated on the 27th day of

Oct. 1740, to the v. of Ratheline et Cashell, in co. Longford et dio. Ardagh.

Robert Moffit was collated on January 1780, to the vicarages of Ratheline and Cashell, in the co. of Longford and diocese of Ardagh.

James Farrell was instituted the 31st day of May 1813, to the vicarage of Ratheline, in the county of Longford and diocese of Ardagh, vice Robert Moffit, who held from January 1780, and vacated same by resignation.

XII. Suggestions for Improvement, and means for meliorating the condition of the People.

Various suggestions have been often offered to the public, for improving and ameliorating the condition of the poor of this country; but one plain and obvious way of ameliorating their condition would be, the residence of men of fortune and influence in their respective parishes; and there is no doubt but solid and permanent advantages might be conferred both on the clergy and laity by some modification or legislative enactment on the subject of tythes. There is a vile and shameful practice of long standing here, which undoubtedly should be suppressed, namely, that of holding a public market on the Sabbath day; it is now become so common, that nothing less than the instant vigour of the law can put it down.

APPENDIX.

TOWNLANDS, &c. IN RATHCLINE.

Name.	Derivation and English Name.	Proprietors.	Acres.
Lanesborough ...	Meaning obvious.	James Lane Fox, Esq.	200
Clonbonny	Milk-lawnd.	Ditto.	170
Barnacor	Cranesgap.	Ditto.	30
Clooncraffor, or Mt. Davy's }	Branch-lawn. }	Captain Shuldham. }	80
Clonfower	Coldfield.	Earl of Granard.	165
Derrygeel	Family Oakwood.	Countess Dowager of Ross.	50
Clontybeg	Field of the little house.	Ditto.	20
Gurteengar.	Little short garden.	James L. Fox, Esq.	100
Knock	Hill.	Ditto.	40
Tollyvrane	Mill-hill.	Ditto.	130
Kilcrow	Narrow-wood.	Ditto.	300
Rathcline	Fort of the little trench.	Ditto.	400
Blenevoher	Meaning not obvious.	Ditto.	300
Cullentrough	Holly district.	Sir Thos. Newcomen, Bart.	
Fermoyle }	Bare grass. }	Mrs. O'Farrell, widow of } late G. O'Farrell. }	300
Lismacmanus	Macmanus fort.	John King, Esq.	80
Cashelbeg	Little bulwark.	Ditto.	80
Carrastrawley	Meaning not obvious.	James L. Fox, Esq.	140
Carrintule	Meaning not obvious.	Ditto.	30
Carrarowe	Red quarter.	Ditto.	200
Carrigeens	Little rocks.	Ditto.	200
Kilnacarrow }	Church or wood of the } quarter. }	— Devereil, Esq.	80
Inchenough	New Island.	Counsellor O'Neill.	20
Derryloughbonna }	Oakwood of the Lough } of Bann. }	Captain Shuldham.	30
Angbalaghan	Ford of the little Lough.	James L. Fox, Esq.	200
Lieduff	Black fort.	Captain Davys.	25
Lisawley	Awley's fort.	J. L. Fox, Esq.	30
Angbakeel	Narrow ford.	Ditto.	20
Lebery	Meaning not obvious.	Ditto.	300
Glebe	Meaning obvious.	Vicar of Rathcline.	20
Lismacush	Meaning not obvious.	J. L. Fox, Esq.	200
Mohareveen	Handsome park.	Captain Shuldham.	40
Curralough	Crooked lough.	Ditto.	60

No. XV.

PARISH OF

RATHCONRATH,

(Diocese of Meath, and County of Westmeath,)

BY THE REV. FRED. AUG. POTTER, RECTOR.

I. *Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

Name.	THE ancient and modern name of the parish is
Etymology	Rathconrath. It derives its denomination from that regular and connected chain of raths or forts which its surface presents in almost every townland or subdivision, as will evidently appear from the number
Situation.	returned. It is situated in the barony of Rathconrath, county of Westmeath, and diocese of Meath, lying nearly west of Mullingar, and bounded on the north by Kilmac-niven and Balnacarig, on the south by Bal-rath, on the east by Glascorn, and on the west by Coolgavenny and Aughnaboy. Its greatest
Extent.	extent from east to west, or from Rathconrath to Farthingstown and the cross-roads of Skea, is nearly one mile and three-quarters; from north to south, or from Paddingstown to the extremity of Killashee, is about four miles; and the circumference nearly
Divisions.	seven miles and a half. It is divided into 22 townlands, the names of which are recited in the Appen-

dix, containing, according to the county docket, nearly 4300 acres: the arable land, that is corn, flax, and potatoes, amounting to 1200 acres; meadow 90 acres; pasture land, bottom land and bog, about 3010 acres. The little river Rathconrath takes its ^{Rivers.} rise from the bog of Killahée, and runs nearly from south to north, till it falls into the Inny, forming a partial boundary between the parishes of Rathconrath and Mullingar. The river of Sheawn is an inconsiderable stream, but forms a boundary between the parish of Rathconrath and the union of Pierce-town. There is one lake, denominated the lake of ^{Lake.} Ballnacarra. There are no mountains. The hills are those of Rathconrath and Skea. The lands contiguous are principally arable and pasture. The prin- ^{Bogs.} cipal bogs are Killahée and Ballnacarra. The only wood is at Meares-court, but it is trifling in its extent.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

The quarries in general are limestone and black ^{Limestone.} flag. The fuel is entirely turf. The natural manure ^{Flags.} limestone gravel. The lake of Ballnacarra produces pike, eels, trout, roach and perch.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

Rathconrath is but an indifferent village, consisting ^{Village.} of such descriptions of cabins, as, from their appearance, possess no claim whatsoever upon the curiosity of the traveller. The principal habitations are those belonging to James Laughlin and Thomas Tims, farmers, and Michael McCormick, a retailer

Gentle-
men's Seats

of spirits, and proprietor of what may be denominated a carman's inn. Upon leaving Rathconrath, the house of Mount-Dalton presents itself upon an elevated situation, near which is a remarkable obelisk, surrounded with a handsome plantation, and commanding a very extensive prospect. At a considerable distance to the right, upon the road to Ballymahon, are Old Town and Rathhaslin, the seats of John Banon, Esq. and Meares-Court, the charming residence of Wm. Devenish Meares, Esq. The high road through Rathconrath is that which leads from Mullingar to Ballymahon, Roscommon, and Killala; the intersecting roads are from Rathconrath to Athlone; from Rathconrath to Kilbeggan; from Rathconrath to Balnacarig; and from Rathconrath to Cole-hill, in the county of Longford. Mullingar, which is the next market and post town, is distant from Rathconrath six miles. At two miles distance from it also is the little village of Kenny, with the ruins of a church upon the left; half a mile beyond Kenny, on the right, is Green-Park, the extensive residence of the late Sir Robert Hudson. The road here crosses the Royal Canal over a bridge of cut stone, called Shan-donagh; about one mile further, at a good distance to the right, is Leddistown, the seat of John Lyons, Esq. and Bellmount, the residence of John O'Reilly, Esq. Thence to Mullingar, the lake of Belvidere, and the surrounding improvements, present themselves, forming a most beautiful scene. A little before you enter the town, on the left, are seen the military barracks, an extensive and ornamental pile of buildings, picturesquely situated. The number of gentlemen's houses in the parish, including slate houses belonging to the middling class

Roads.

of farmers, are nine. The number of cabins about 500. None of either description are uninhabited.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

Of moats, Danish forts or raths, there are several. **Raths.** In Rathconrath there is one moat in high preservation, containing within it several rooms or recesses; it is surrounded with a rath. The total number of these structures in Rathconrath are 10—In Kilpatrick 1; in Simonstown 2; in Painstown 3; in Rathduff 1; in Irishtown 3; in Modernstown 1; in Meares-court 4; in Paddinstown 6; in Skea 2; in Parcellstown 1; in Milltown and Corkin 6; in Farthingstown and Ballard 2. The only monument is a handsome obelisk **Obelisk.** in Mount-Dalton, erected by the late General Dalton, who particularly distinguished himself in the Austrian service. On each side of the pedestal there is an inscription, one dedicated to his present Majesty, two others to the Emperor and Empress of Germany, the fourth to the Dalton family. The ruins of the **Ruins.** old church of this parish are still to be seen adjoining that which has been lately erected. Within the walls of this church the remains of General Dalton are deposited.

V. *Present & Former State of Population, Food, Fuel, &c.*

The number of Protestants at present is 18, the **Population** total number of inhabitants about 4500; of which there are, of males 2050, of females 2450, as far as can be collected from authority or information. There appears to have been no very great increase or diminution with respect to the inhabitants, by comparing

the former with the present state of population. The principal landholders are not residents, Mr. Meares being the only estated gentleman that resides in the parish. This non-residence must for ever become a check to population ; for the increase of houses, the only criterion of an increase of population, always takes place near the residences of gentlemen.

Food.

The food of the lower classes is but indifferent, consisting principally of potatoes, butter-milk, and stir-about : meat is very little used ; perhaps at the festivals of Christmas and Easter they indulge themselves and their families with a little animal food. Their

Fuel.

fuel consists principally of turf, which is obtained from the bogs of Killahee, Ballnacarra, and Daly's-town. The inhabitants in general are healthy and

Dress.

robust in their appearance. Their dress is frize, the wool of which is manufactured by their wives. Their mode of living is defective in cleanliness. Many of their cabins are extremely wretched, and they are in general but too contented to acquiesce in that wretchedness. The writer has suggested plans with respect to improvements in the article of food ; they have tried them, allowed their utility, but declare that it encroaches too much upon their time ; that food, which requires the least trouble in dressing, appears to them the most palatable. If they are desirous of indulging themselves, it is with whiskey. The situation of the inhabitants, in point of wealth, is, that the landholders are in general independent, the peasantry poor. The only disease that appears to be at all prevalent, is the ague : this is to be attributed to their residing in low swampy grounds, with perhaps a predisposition to it, arising from their want of cleanliness, but they are in general healthy, and

live to a good age. Mary Coleman is at present Longevity. living, aged 101; several are between 80 and 90. Their occupations in general are agriculture, and Employment. seeking subsistence by daily labour; there are also a few hands employed in weaving. The attention of the females is principally devoted to spinning, and to the cultivation of flax.

VI. The Genius & Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.

In point of worldly matters, the lower classes Genius and Disposition possess a good share of cunning and cleverness, under the appearance of simplicity; their tempers are warm, and prone to litigation. The language in general used is the English; but the Irish is also spoken, particularly in their intercourse among themselves. The only particular customs that have Customs. come under the writer's observation are, 1st. married women calling themselves by their maiden names; 2d. their wakes, which are productive of nothing but riot, intoxication, and indecent mirth; and 3d. their crying at funerals. There are no patrons or patron days. Rathconrath is asserted to have been once remarkable for its college or seminary; no vestige however of it now remains. The inclosures of the fields, in general, are dry walls. Several skeletons, human bones, and warlike implements have been dug up.

VII. The Education and Employment of Children, &c.

The education of the children is rather limited, Education. being chiefly confined to spelling, reading, and learning the Roman Catholic catechism. They are

employed when out of school, in assisting their parents. There is no public school, but a school will be opened in the course of this year by the parish clerk, who is to receive from the rector a house, and 40s. per annum, with the benefit of scholars. The cabin schools charge 1s. 8d. per quarter for spelling and reading; 2s. 6d. per quarter is charged for arithmetic. We have no public libraries or MSS. relative to Ireland, in this parish.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

- Advowson.** The patron of this parish is the Earl of Belvidere, whose residence is at Belvidere, about two miles and an half distant from Mullingar, upon that road which leads from that town to Tyrrel's-pass. It is a rectory, and not united to any parish. The church of Rathconrath has been lately built by the Board of First Fruits. The Roman Catholic chapel is situate in Milltown, and there are no other places of worship in the parish. The glebe-land contains of nearly 30 acres; the glebe-house is now building by the Board of First Fruits. Tythes are increasing in value by the increase of agriculture, and from the encouragement afforded by the Royal Canal. The several tytheable crops are wheat, bere, barley, oats, flax, hay and sheep; they are in general rated as follows: wheat pays 12s. per acre; bere, barley and flax, 10s. per acre; oats, 8s. per acre; hay, 5s. per acre; sheep, 4d. per head. The parochial funds are, and must be trifling, from the inconsiderable number of Protestants; they consist of what is collected at the church, with a few fines levied by magistrates; these inconsiderable sums are, however, conferred
- Church.**
- Chapel.**
- Glebe.**
- Tythe.**
- Parochial Funds.**

upon such as are deserving objects. The number of Mendicancy. mendicants is great, consisting of itinerant strollers, who from their robust appearance and youth, can never be considered in the light of objects of charity. The peasantry suffer much from their intrusions, as they are naturally charitable, and ready to share their potatoes, though for this they receive little gratitude. In Rathconrath, besides the Protestant rector, there are two Roman Catholic priests.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

The modes of agriculture differ very little from those of the neighbouring country. The chief proprietors are, William D. Meares, Esq. Mr. Magan, Mr. Tisdall, Mr. West, Mr. Digby, Mrs. Begg, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. O'Reilly, Mr. Tighe, Mr. Barber, &c. The best land sets from 50s. to 3 guineas per acre; middling land, from 35s. to 2 guineas per acre; the poorest, from 20s. to nearly one guinea and a half. The general price of labour is from 10d. to 1s. 1d. per day in the spring, summer, and autumn seasons, but this depends upon circumstances; the employer sometimes feeds his labourers, in which case wages proportionally diminish. In harvest the wages fluctuate much, as they depend upon the nature of the crops, whether meadow or grain; and again, whether those crops be light or heavy. These matters can only be adjusted by the employer and the labourers themselves. With respect to the prices of land, it is to be observed, that when ground is taken to be broken up from the lea, which is generally stiled taking of con-acres, the rent demanded in this case is from 8 to 9 guineas per acre, for a certain

Proprietors

Rents of Land.

Rates of Labour.

Con-acres.

Manure.

number of crops; the first is potatoes, the remaining are generally oats. This increase of rent implies an inference that the land must be much injured by this system. With respect to manure, a very common practice is, to place a quantity of straw upon private roads during the wet season, that they may obtain a sufficiency of manure for the potatoes. Hay is very little used by the peasantry, the small quantity consumed is for the stock of the principal gentlemen, and the middling class of farmers.

Mode of
Agriculture

The system of farming practised, displays neither heatness nor regularity; considerable portions of ground remain untilled from want of draining: here the residence of the estated gentlemen would be useful; besides, draining will never be practised but by such as have a long term of years: the crops in general are late, but productive; the bottom lands are employed in feeding young cattle; burning of land is very little practised, and is discountenanced by the principal landholders. Such gentlemen as reside, have a number of cottier tenants dwelling under them, who pay the rent of their cabin, their grazing, and potatoe ground, by giving their labour in return for a certain price per day throughout the year; the consequence of this agreement is, that the landlord is bound to provide employment during the winter months: the remainder of the peasantry, who are not restricted by those conditions, pay their rent in general by the feeding of a pig, and the sale of a small quantity of butter. There are no markets, but there is a patent for a fair, which is not held. The grain is in general disposed of, together with potatoes, &c. &c. at Coolnahey, about two miles distant from Rathconrath.

Fair.

X. *Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.*

The trade principally carried on, is that which ^{Trade.} relates to the sending of provisions to Dublin by the Royal Canal: boats return thence laden with timber, slates, flax-seed, and a variety of other articles. The distance from Coolnahey to Dublin is about 48 miles. Flax and wool are manufactured, but only for the ^{Manufactures.} domestic consumption of the inhabitants, as but a small quantity, if any, is sent to market. Cattle are purchased in great numbers at the different fairs, particularly at those in Connaught; they are fattened here, and sold in Dublin to great advantage. Many of them are also disposed of, at the different fairs in this and the adjoining counties.

XI. *Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.*

The only natural curiosities that the writer is acquainted with in this parish, are to be observed upon the right hand side of that road which leads from Rathconrath to Ballymore and Athlone, namely, two large rocks, which, from their singular and remarkable appearance, the country people have denominated the cat and mouse. Near these rocks a remarkable spring has been discovered, which, like the river Alpheus, is swallowed up in the earth, and having been conveyed by some subterraneous passage for the space of two miles and a half, again rises and presents itself to view: this certainly is worthy the attention of the curious. In an orchard adjoining the gardens of Meares-court, there are strong indications of its being formerly used as a place of

interment when the castle existed, upon whose site the present dwelling-house has been erected; the ground presents the appearance of regular tumuli: this conjecture is corroborated by the testimony of the oldest inhabitants, who affirm, that several skeletons have been dug up there. No remarkable occurrences are to be recorded. The Meares family is of considerable standing; and a piece of the communion plate is inscribed as the gift of Lewis Meares to the parish of Rathconrath, 1690. This Lewis Meares also gave a very fine glebe to the parish of Almoritia, the presentation of which parish was formerly vested in his family.

Incumbents.

List of Incumbents, as extracted from the First Fruits' Records—

Rectoria de Rathconnerth, ecclia, repatur. cancel. ruinator. Jacob Dillon miles^s pdict. patronus adm. ad repand. cancellam: dict. rectoria valet per annum £40.

Myr. Jacob Areskyn, clicus. in artib. magr. verbi divini pdicator. rect. 1615.

Randolphus Adams, institut. 2 Sept. 1630, ad rect. de Rathconrath, v. de Rathconrath, £3, 15.

Rathconrath rect. vicecomes de Roscomon patronus valet £40, 1633.

Milesius Swyny, cler. institut. fuit 15^o Jan. 1675, ad rect. de Rathconra in com. Westmidd.

Nichus Knight, cler. institut. fuit 21^o die Martij, 1696, ad rect. de Rathconrath dioc. Midd. com. Westmidd.

Benj. Hawkshaw, cler. institut. fuit 9 Jun. 1730, ad vicar. de Ardnurcher et collat. ad rect. de Rathcondrah et Pierstowne in dioc. prd.

Currel Smith, collated 29 Dec. 1738, to the rect. of Rathcondra.

Michael M'Kinlie, 2 March. 1748, r. Rathcondrah.

Wm. Ould, 12 Feb. 1765, r. of Rathconrath, v. same, £13, 15s.

Frederie Augustus Potter, instituted 4th March, 1811, to the rectory of Rathcondra, in the diocese of Meath and co. Westmeath, vice William Ould, who held from 12th Feb. 1765, and vacated by resignation. £13 15s. Ir. £10 5. 9d. Engl.

XII. Suggestions for Improvement, and means for meliorating the condition of the People.

Upon this head, the writer is of opinion, that the residence of those gentlemen who possess landed property in the parish, would contribute more to improve the morals and situation of the peasantry, than any other circumstance whatsoever. Residence seems to act as a means of exciting industry. By the draining and improvement of their lands, the resident landlords circulate not only that which will be beneficial to the labourer, but secure for themselves, in the end, considerable advantages. Residence, in like manner, tends to civilize the peasantry, and render them amenable to the laws of their country, which have of late years been much disregarded; the consequence is, that a spirit of discontent has been evinced, and acts of the greatest violence committed; but the present state of general peace will, it is to be hoped, ere long, restore tranquillity and content to this country and its inhabitants.

APPENDIX.

TOWNLANDS OF RATHCONRATH.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Derivation.</i>
Ballanacarra	Stonestown.
Farthingstown	Meaning obvious.
Ballaid	High wall.
Banneens	Little soals.
Kilpatrick	Patrick's church.
Simonstown	Meaning obvious.
Paintown	Meaning obvious.
Irishtown	Meaning obvious.
Rathduff.....	Black fortress.
Milltown	Meaning obvious.
Corkin	Little peak.
Parcellstown	Meaning obvious.
Mearescourt	Meaning obvious.
Pardinstown	Meaning obvious.
Moderntown	Meaning obvious.
Skea	Bush.
Mount Dalton	Meaning obvious.
Killabee	Cuckow's wood.
Rathconrath	Fort or rath of compact or agreement.
Jordanstown	Meaning obvious.
Sheacon	A dried or parched spot of ground.

No. XVI.

UNION OF

ROSENALLIS OR OREGAN,

(Diocese of Kildare and Queen's County.)

BY THE REV. JOHN BALDWIN, CURATE.

I. *The Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

THE proper name of this union, though commonly Name. denominated Rosenallis, is O'Regan. It was anciently called hy Regan, and du Regan; hy and du, Etymology being synonymous in the Irish language, and importing personal property: so that hy Regan means the property of O'Regan, an Irish chieftain, who is said to have lived in the beginning of the fifth century. The union consists of four parishes episcopally united, namely, Rosenallis, Castlebrack, Rearymore, and Kilmanman. It is situated in the diocese of Kildare, and extends over the whole of the barony of Tinnelinch, in the Queen's county.* Its length

Situation
and Extent.

* It is worthy of remark, that in the reign of Philip and Mary, when the King's and Queen's Co. were divided, the commissioners of division took in that part of the western end of O'Regan which lies between the stream of Ballykinnegan and the county bridge, being an extent of two miles, and joined it to the King's county. For when Queen Elizabeth made the first grant of Castlecuffe, it was deemed to

from the town of Mountmelick (which it includes) to the boundary of the Queen's county, in a direction from east to west, is about 11 miles. Its breadth, which is inconsiderable between bog and mountain, is nearly equal for the entire of its length. It is situate between the dioceses of Ferns, Ossory, and Meath; and its eastern extremity touches the diocese

Boundaries of Killaloe. This union is bounded on the east by the river Owenass, which divides it from the parish of Coolbanagher; on the south and south east by the same river which separates it from the parish of Clonena, in the diocese of Ferns, and by the Sliebloom mountains, which divide it from the parish of Offerlane, in the diocese of Ossory; on the north and north east it is bounded by a river which divides it from the parishes of Geashill and Ballyboy in the diocese of Meath; and on the west, by a large river which divides it from the parish of Kinnity, in the diocese of Killaloe, and King's county. The union contains 15,000 acres of arable, meadow, and pasture land; and 15,076 acres of bog and mountain, making in the whole 30,576 acres.

Rivers. Many rivers issue from the mountains of Sliebloom. The Owenass which runs by Mountmelick, and flows north easterly; the county river so called, from forming the boundary of the county, its course is northerly; the Barradois which passing through General Dunne's demesne, and the village

be in the King's county, as appears by the patent. But from the persevering spirit of the natives in defending their old limits, the barony of Tionebinch still maintains its ancient extent; stretching to the confines of the old principality of Ely at the county bridge. And the King's county is now considered, in all cases of legal jurisdiction, to be terminated by the said old boundary.

of Clonaslee, is then joined by the river Clodiagh; and the united streams take a northerly course, passing through Lord Charleville's demesne at Tullamore. But by far the most remarkable of the rivers that flow from these mountains, is the Barrow; which issues from a glen called Glen Barrow, and taking at first a northerly direction through Tinnehinch, it is joined by another river (Clarahill,) and then passing through the lands of Rearymore to Clonduff, it turns to the south east, and passing within a mile of Mountmelick, flows by Portarlinton and Monastereven. The river probably derives its name from the glen in which it rises; in Irish it is called Bearva, for which different derivations have been proposed, but they are omitted, as being of dubious authority.

Here we have two loughs or lakes: Lough Anna, Lough, situated in Kilmanman, and bordering on Ballyboy; it is three miles in circumference, and abounds in pike, roach, and perch. In the middle of this lake, where it is shallowest, certain oak framing is yet visible: and there is a traditional report, that in the rebellion of 1641, a band of the rebels had a wooden house erected on this framing, from whence they issued out at night in a boat, and plundered the surrounding country, till the appearance of cannon dislodged them. Another traditional report is, that there were two houses erected on this frame work by the O'Molloys, the primitive lords of Fircall, which is the ancient name of that part of the King's county, lying on the north west bank of this lake. It is certain that Mr. Baldwin, grandfather of the present Mr. Baldwin of Castlecuffe, raised timber-plank, and some pots and pans from this part of the

Wooden
House in
the Lough.

lough; and more recently two smoothing-irons of antique form, and a strange fashioned jar full of leaden bullets, resembling musket balls, have been found in it. The other lough is called Lough Duff, and is chiefly formed by the influx of the Barrow. It is now scarcely a mile in circumference, though formerly a fine lake; the vast quantity of sand brought down by the Barrow, having converted the greater part of it into pasture ground. There is a small island in this lough; and it contains the same kinds of fish as the other.

- Mountain.** The only mountain is the Slieubloom. Its first ridge, almost to the very summit, presents to the view, hamlets and gardens in a high state of cultivation; it produces good crops of potatoes and oats; and some of the glens also between the ridges, are very productive of grain and potatoes. It is singular that this great fertility is on the north side of the mountain, whilst its southern side, more exposed to the sun, is nearly barren, and mostly covered with heath.
- Hills.** There are many hills in this union, particularly the very high ground of Castlebrack, all arable.
- Bog.** There is a large tract of bog extending through the whole union, which affords good fuel; but it has as yet undergone little or no change from improvements.
- Woods.** It is said that this whole district was once a continued forest of oak, deal, and yew; in proof of which it may be observed, that the bottom of Lake Anna is nearly covered with oak and yew, lying horizontally with many roots or stumps yet adhering to the soil; and an English commander received the thanks of Queen Elizabeth, for conducting a party of her cavalry in safety through the woods of Oregan, from Birr to

Athy. There is a small wood on the lands of Dry-nagh; and near Mountmelick there is a small wood, but no other in the union, except the plantations, which shall be mentioned under the head of gentlemen's seats. Wherever the mountains are now planted, they promise a profitable return. All kinds of fir, birch, beech, and oak, thrive well, as may be seen on the demesnes of Brittas and Cappard.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

There are no mines working or explored at present in the union, yet tradition says that coal was heretofore raised at Straduff; and there is a strongly impregnated chalybeate spring in Coolagh. The mountains abound in granite flags, which, when exposed to the air, become so hard as to take a good polish. They are worked up into very neat chimney pieces, and are also carried far into the country, and are also much used in flagging halls and cellars, &c.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

We have no public buildings, such as infirmaries, hospitals, jails, &c. in this union; but in consequence of the many rivers flowing from the mountain, there are no less than nine bridges, besides four on the boundaries. Three of these adjoin Mountmelick, which is a large and populous market town, the only one in this district; and was anciently called Balla Cuillin, the town in the woods. It forms the eastern limit of this union, and consists chiefly of one main street, but with some lanes. It lies low, and is nearly surrounded by rivers; and has but one inn of any

Bridges.

Market
Town.

Villages. note. There are two villages; Rosenallis, situated on the eastern point of the Sliebloom mountain, three miles distant from the town of Mountmelick, and Clonaslee, a neat village, through which the river Barradois runs; over which there is a good bridge.* It is seven and a half miles distant from Mountmelick, and has an inn.

**Gentle-
mens' Seats** Many comfortable farm houses, mostly thatched, are scattered over the union; and a few good slated mansions. The first that occurs is Summergrove, situated on the right hand or south side of the road leading to Market Town: it belongs to Mr. Sabatier. On the same side of the road, and about five miles distant from the said town, is Cappard, a very large and roomy house, lately built by Mr. Pigott: its situation on the eastern side of Sliebloom mountain is bold, and commands an extensive prospect. The demesne of this mansion has been ornamentally planted, and much improved by its proprietor, who now resides in England. Above the village of Clonaslee, on the northern side of the same mountain, and at eight miles distance from Mountmelick, Brittas, the residence of General Dunne presents itself to view. It is a neat lodge, with a large demesne well wooded and judiciously planted, and has an extensive and pleasing prospect. On the left hand or north side of the road leading to Market Town, and about three miles distant from it, is the large house of Rynn, the mansion of Mr. Croasdaile: it lies low, on lands well improved and planted. About

* This village being copiously supplied with all kinds of provisions and forage, and lying nearly central between the towns of Birr, Mountmelick, Mounttrath, and Tullamore, would be a most advantageous military station.

five miles north from Mountmelick, on the northern boundary of the union, is Kilcavan, the residence of Mr. Sands. The house, which is old, and not very large, lies high, and has an extensive and pleasing prospect. The lands here have been well planted and improved by the present possessor and his father. Two miles from this, and six miles from Mountmelick, on the left hand or north side of the road, is Quarry Mount, belonging to Mr. Johnson. Near this, on the same side of the road, a good slated house has been built by Mr. Meredith, on the lands of Rearymore; and there is another comfortable looking house near Clonaslee, belonging to Mr. Samuel Dunne of Corbally. At nine miles distance from Mountmelick, in a westerly direction, and on the left hand or north side of the road leading to Birr, lies Castlecuffe, the residence of the Rev. Mr. Baldwin. The house is very old, but has a handsome lawn before it, well skirted with timber trees, and many well planted hedge rows.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

Castlecuffe is a very large ruin. This castle, which Castlecuffe was built by Sir Charles Coote, the ancestor of the present Sir Charles, of Ballyfin, about the year 1641, is a plain strong building, exhibiting no order of architecture; and was so called by Sir Charles after his first wife, whose name was Cuffe. There is a traditional report, not at all devoid of probability, that, in the absence of Sir Charles, who was a General in the English army, this pile of building was set fire to and burned, by the rebels of those times, before it was perfectly finished; and that, in

consequence of this, he erected another castle, between Mountrath and Borris-in-Ossory, where he afterwards resided, and which he called Ruishhall, after his second wife, whose name was Ruish. At Clara-hill, about a mile from Clonaslee, are the ruins of an old castle, which was formerly the residence of the younger branches of the Dunne family; the old name was Claragh, or "the broad flat ford." Near to the east bank of the Clodiagh, and in the vicinity of the village of Clonaslee, are the ruins of a castle, called Ballinakill, or "the mansion in the wood." It was built in the year 1680, by a Colonel Dunne, a predecessor of the present General, but never inhabited. South of this is Coolamona, or "the forelock of the bogs." This place was once of considerable strength; according to the ancient knowledge of fortification, it was deemed impregnable: it had a drawbridge and castle, and was the western barrier to the strong hold of Tinnelinch. The works are all nearly demolished; even the river which ran here, has forsaken its bed; for the mountain rills, bringing with them vast quantities of sand and stones in time of flood, often choke up their old channels, and are forced to seek a new course.

Castle-
brack.

The ruins of Castlebrack are worthy the notice of the antiquary. This castle was once strong and stately. It was built by the Dunne family. Its last inhabitant was a Colonel Dunne, on whose demise it fell to ruin: an old tradition, that the moat of Castlebrack contained some subterraneous apartments, was lately verified by L. M'Evoy, the occupying tenant: he opened the moat, and actually found the apartments; but the details were not made public. East of Coola-

a-Mona are the ruins of 'Tinnehinch, "the house of the ^{Tinne-} island." This was the cradle of the Dunne family ; hinch. from thence, as their primeval seat, they took their title of Baron Tinnehinch. They continued to enjoy it without interruption until the fatal disturbances of 1641, when Bryan O'Duin lost his estate, but escaped to the continent and entered into the Austrian service : his posterity still remain there, but write their name Don.

Ruins of old monastic and religious houses are ^{Ruins of} to be found in each of the four parishes which ^{Monastic} compose this union. Kilmanman, the western limit ^{and Religi-} both of the union and the county, still shews the ^{ous Houses,} ruins of an old church called Kilmanman, in English "the burial-place of Manman." This Manman is reported to have built this church, (where he lies interred,) in the seventh century. He also built the monastery of Lanchoil, now pronounced Lahoil, and called it Corrigeen, "the hermitage of the rocks : " it lies about two miles west of Kilmanman church. At a place called Killyshane, half a mile S. E. of Kilmanman, was a house for religious women : their burial ground was discovered in 1768 by the labourers of General Dunne, and several monumental stones of great antiquity dug up. About a mile north of Tinnehinch, on the east bank of the Barrow, are the ruins of Reary church. Rosenallis has the ruins of an old church that was dedicated to the Virgin Mary : the inhabitants still observe the 1st of February, in commemoration of their patroness. A round tower,†

^{Round}
^{Towers.}

† It is quite evident, from sundry authentic records, that these round towers were appropriated to the preservation of the Baal-Psalter of Thinne, or sacred fire of Baal ; first at the solemn convention of Tara, by Tara, by Comerford in the year of Christ 79, in the reign of Tuathal Teachtmor, it was p. 41.

connected with the ruins of Rosenallis, still remains. There is also a round tower on the hill over the village of Rosenallis, and another on the lands of Rynn; but they are only the remains of modern windmills. Some Danish forts and moats are still to be seen in different parts of the union. Near Lahoil, before mentioned, is a barrow, or mound of earth, called the Giant's Grave. A peasant, named Purcell, is said to have explored this mound about a century ago, and to have found therein a spur of rude and antique workmanship, composed of solid gold.

V. *Present & Former State of Population, Food, &c.*

Population The reputed number of families and inhabitants, with their different occupations, whether in trade, manufactures, or agriculture, may be found in the first Table in the Appendix. From the increase of houses in this union, it is probable the population has also been on the increase. The general food of the lower orders is potatoes and milk; and the whole-

Food.

**Psalter of
Cashel,
Comerford,
p. 65.**

enacted, that, on the 31st of October, annually, the sacred fire should be publicly exhibited from the top of the stately tower of Flachga in Munster, from whence all the other repositories of the Baal-Thinne were to be relindled, in case they were, by any accident, allowed to go out; it was also enacted, that a particular tower should be erected for that purpose in each of the other four provinces, Meath being then a distinct province. For this purpose the tax called Scraball, of three pence per head on all adults, was imposed. Secondly, when this idolatrous worship had been prohibited by the preaching of St. Patrick, Lughaid, son of Laogaire, then monarch, was killed by lightning, and his death was deemed a punishment from heaven for his impiety in preserving the Baal-Thinne, in direct opposition to St. Patrick's preaching. Thirdly, the venerable Bede, in the life of St. Cuthbert, who died A. D. 657, says, that receptacles for the sacred fire were frequent in the island, and the only part of heathen idolatry that then remained. It is well known that there were 42 of these towers in the island.

someness of this diet is proved by the healthy and robust appearance of those who use it. The other classes vary their mode of living according to their circumstances. Though the air of Oregan must be Climate. dense and humid from its situation on the north side of the high mountains of Slieubloom, and being skirted for its entire length by a deep bog, and having two lakes within it, yet it is far from being unhealthy; and though the clouds are frequently arrested in their progress by the lofty summit of the mountain, yet Oregan is in general as free from fogs, and enjoys as serene an atmosphere, as the neighbouring districts to the north or south. Epidemic diseases are very rare; and instances of longevity, even exceeding one hundred years, are frequent. A Mrs. Dempsy lately died at 109; one man, Garret Longevity. Wisely, of Corbally, is upwards of 100 years of age, and enjoys good health; another, Bryan Rourke, is able to dig in his garden at the advanced age of 95. Here, as in other parts of the kingdom, the natives Dress: have laid aside their old dress, and appear at their places of worship in fashionable dresses, according to their rank. The inhabitants seem in general to Wealth: live comfortably; many of them have, within these few years, become tolerably wealthy, from the high price brought by cattle and corn. Most of the labouring peasantry have a garden, which produces some potatoes and oats; and a cow to give them milk. The most opulent, however, are the trading people of Mountmelick, consisting chiefly of quakers.

VI. *The Genius & Disposition of the Lower Classes, &c.*

The people here are naturally endowed with good Disposition

dispositions, and are hospitable, orderly, and peaceably inclined, except when intoxicated by spirituous liquors, when they become almost frantic. They seem to have a quick conception, with minds capable of cultivation and improvement. They all speak English, and the use of the Irish language has much declined; even among the peasants it is not so much used now as the English. Except that they are deficient in cleanliness, they have conformed in their houses to the habits of the English settlers; in their dress also they have done so fully, as far as circumstances will allow. Old superstitions are going out of use; even the funeral cry is laid aside. The people of Rearymore parish annually assemble, on the 12th of December, at St. Finian's well, to celebrate the festival of their Patron Saint. The well consists of three or four holes in the solid rock always full of water, and is surrounded by old hawthorns, which are religiously preserved by the natives: it is also customary for the common people to go round this well on their bare knees by way of penance and mortification. On the return of the annual festival of St. Manman, the Roman Catholic clergyman performs a mass in the parish of St. Manman, which is attended only by those, who are to be interred in the burying-ground of that parish. The same custom prevails in the parish of Rearymore on the festival of St. Finian.

VII. *The Education and Employment of Children, &c.*

Education. We have one Protestant schoolmaster in the town of Mountmelick. He is paid an annual salary of £15, for the instruction of twenty poor children,

without any religious distinction. The Quakers have also established in this town a very large school, which they denominate "Provincial." It is devoted to the support and education of the children of those of their society who are in low circumstances; there is accommodation in it for 60 boarders, and the children are carefully instructed, and well clothed and fed. It is surprising to see the number of children who attend the Roman Catholic schools throughout this union; which clearly points out how very desirous the lower classes now are of having their children educated. The mental improvement here, within the last twenty years, is very great; but there is still a deficiency of proper schools. General Dunne is now building a school-house, which he intends to endow with 2 acres of land: it is hoped the Board of Education will furnish it with a master.

The female children are chiefly engaged in spinning, seamstry, and other employments suitable to their sex; sometimes they are engaged in binding corn and similar operations. The boys are employed by farmers, or in domestic business; and many of them are placed out to the weaving trade. There is Employment. no fund here for the maintenance of the poor, except what is collected in the churches, the amount of which is but small. They are therefore supported by the benevolence of their neighbours, so as to prevent the necessity of their becoming vagrants. Persons of the latter description are generally strangers. This union affords no materials for answering the other titles of this section, as to the state of learning, public libraries, collections of Irish manuscripts, &c. Poor.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

Patron. This parish is a vicarage united under one Protestant clergyman. It was formerly in the patronage of the Dunne family by patent, but is now in the patronage of Thomas Kemmis, Esq. of Kildare-street, Dublin.

Tythes. Two thirds of the tythes are rectorial, and vested in General Dunne's family by patent; the remaining third is vicarial, and belongs to the vicar. Few instances of paying the tythe in kind occur, it is generally commuted for money. The tythes, at present, rate at 10s. an acre for wheat, bere, and barley; 15s. an acre for rape; 6s. an acre for oats and potatoes; grass from 3s. to 5s. an acre according to its quantity; sheep and lambs 10s. a score. A cess is laid on the union at Easter for keeping the churches in repair, and paying clerks and sextons. This is carefully entered in a book kept for the purpose: there is also a registry kept of marriages, baptisms, and burials.

Churches. In this union there are three churches, one at the village of Rosenallis, which is the mother church; one in the town of Mountmelick, which is a chapel of ease to Rosenallis, the parish in which Mountmelick is situated; and the third has been lately erected by General Dunne in the village of Clonaslee. It was consecrated a short time ago and made a perpetual curacy, to which the Rev. John Baldwin, jun. has been appointed. These churches are so conveniently situated that none of the Protestant inhabitants is at a greater distance than three miles from his place of worship.

Glebe. The glebe house of Camira, where the present vicar, Mr. Pigott, resides, is sufficiently large, and in very good

repair: it stands on an elevated piece of ground, within half a mile of the village of Rosenallis, and three miles of Mountmelick, and there is a glebe of about 170 acres annexed to this manse. There is also glebe land in each of the other three parishes, viz. about 40 acres in the parish of Rearymore; in Straduffe, in the parish of Kilmanman, considerably more than 200 acres of bog; but the glebe of Castlebrack consists only of a house and a small garden adjoining the burial-ground.

This union is divided into two Roman Catholic parishes; the one includes Kilmanman, Rearymore, and the greater part of Rosenallis, with the exception of Mountmelick: this town, with the addition of Castlebrack, forms the other. In each of these, there is a distinct Roman Catholic clergyman placed. There are four Roman Catholic chapels in the union; one in Mountmelick, and one at Clonaghado, in the parish of Castlebrack; over these two one priest presides. The other Roman Catholic clergyman presides over the remaining two; one of which is situated on the hill over Rosenallis, the other at Clonaslee; these two have been lately built, and are large.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

There are no peculiar modes of tillage used here for grain or other vegetables. Potatoes are generally planted in drills, a method which produces good crops, and saves much labour. The general rotation of crops is, potatoes, wheat, or barley and oats. The great demand which existed for some years past, raised the price of cattle, sheep, pigs, corn, and butter; but with the exception of the last

mentioned article, they have all lately suffered a great depression. If this depression continue, it must tend to lower the high rents which land has brought for some time past in this parish, amounting from two pounds to three guineas per acre. Implements of husbandry have undergone little or no change here, in latter times; except that spoked wheel cars are now in general use. In the greater part of this district the soil is cold, so that lime produces the most beneficial effect, particularly on the mountains and the low lands, where it produces good crops of potatoes and oats; but a compost of clay, bog-stuff, and dung, is in general use on the uplands. The farmers of this district are at present more devoted to tillage, than to feeding or breeding cattle: this species of stock is therefore not abundant; and few flocks of sheep are to be met with.

Price of
Labour.

Fairs.

The price of labour varies considerably, being high about the town and villages, and much lower in other parts. The average price may be computed at about 1s. a day for a labourer. There are some fairs held in the union, but of little note, viz. two at Castlecuffe on Easter Tuesday, and on the 22d November; one at Tinnehinch on the 29th October, in which there is nothing exposed for sale but pigs; two at Castlebrack, on the 16th May, and 12th August; and seven in the town of Mountmelick, on the 1st February, 25th March, 2d May, 26th August, 29th September, 1st November, and 11th December; in these there is a large shew of cattle and pigs, with some sheep. There are no regular entries made at these fairs, so that it is impossible to state the number of black cattle, sheep, or pigs sold. We have also a weekly market in the

town of Mountmelick on Saturday. A statement of the different denominations of land in this union, with the number of acres in each denomination, may be seen in the appendix.

X. Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.

The cotton and woollen manufactures are carried on in the town of Mountmelick; but not to so great an extent as formerly; still, however, they give employment to a great number of persons. It is computed that even now* 600 looms are employed; the number was formerly much greater. Coarse coatings and cloths bring from 8s. to 12s. per yard. Grey calicoes, cords, checks and stuffs, are manufactured here. A cotton weaver earns from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per day; and a woollen weaver about 1s. 6d. The combing trade gave employment to a great number of hands a few years ago, but has now much declined, in consequence of the introduction of English spun worsted yarn, of which the stuffs are now mostly made. Bridle-links, and stirrup-irons, are manufactured here, and give employment to a number of smiths. About a century ago there were very extensive iron works here, of which scarcely a vestige now remains. There is no spirit distillery; but there are five breweries in the town of Mountmelick, which produce excellent beer. At the reere of the church of the village of Clonaslee, is a very good bolting mill.

Cotton and
Woollen
Manufac-
tory.

Smith's
Work.

Breweries.

* In families employed in manufacture, there are generally from two to four looms at work. This reconciles the statement that there are 600 looms now employed, with the fact that there are but 370 families engaged in manufactures and trade.

XI. Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.

Several of the articles which might have been classed under this general head, have necessarily been mentioned in the foregoing sections, where they were connected with the subjects under consideration. It may be remarked in confirmation of what has been said in sec. I. of the former woodiness of this district, that large quantities of timber trees, such as deal, oak, and yew, are still raised from the bogs and moorish grounds. Their depth under the surface, shews that they must have lain a long time. Stumps of deal trees, in somewhat regular rows, adhering to the gravel, have been found in a bog, after fourteen spit of turf had been cut away. At the same depth below the surface, a cake of a cylindrical form, and having the appearance of fat, has been met with; but it was found on trial that the fatty matter had been totally absorbed. The name of General Dunne's estate (Brittas,) mentioned in sec. III. is thus accounted for. While those daring invaders, the Danes, held sway in this island, Brittas, a Danish chief, seized on that part of the district, and gave his own name to the castle; certainly a rude stone bust, affixed to one of the portals of the old castle, was always called Brittas, and tradition has faithfully preserved the story. The village of Rosenallis, is said to derive its name from Rossa Failgea, eldest son of Cathaoir More—Charles the Great. The father being in his own hereditary right King of Leinster, was elected supreme monarch on the decease of Fedlimus Legifer, anno Christi 175. He attained to this high dignity by his many and

great virtues, but chiefly by his bold and successful opposition to the Danes, who piratically infested the coasts, though they had not yet attempted an invasion: he was distinguished by his impartial justice and heroic valour, till he fell in the memorable battle of Tailten. This monarch had many sons, polygamy being then tolerated, and Rossa his eldest and favourite, was deeply skilled in the learning of these days. He is said to have built the round tower mentioned in sec. IV.

List of Incumbents, extracted from the First Fruits' records.

Gulielm. Lightbound admiss. 16 April, 1619, v. de Oregan, £16 4.

Georg. Chapham, institut. fuit 25^o die Aprilis, 1662, ad vicar. de Oregan als. Rossenollis cum capell. annex. in dioc. Daren. £12 3s.

Georg Chapham, insitut. fuit 3^o die Jan. 1675, ad vicar. de Oregan in dioc. Daren. et com. Reginae. £12. 4s ob.

Ricus. Hall, cler. in Artib. Magr. admiss. fuit. 29^o die Jan. 1684, ad vicar. de Oregan als. Rossenallis, dioc. Daren et Com. Regin. £12. 3. ob.

Ricus. Harwood, institut. fuit 18^o May, 1709, vic. Oregan. als. Rosenallis. £12. 7s. ob.

Jeremiah Marsh, jun. institut. 21 June, 1788. v. Oregan oth. Rosenollis, Rerymore, Kilmainan, et Castlebrack.

James Saurin, institut. 15 Sept. 1801, v. Oregan, als. Rosenollis, £12. 3s. & of the ch. of Kilmanman, Ballintemple other. Rosmore, Castlebrack, King's co.

Rev. Thomas Pigott, instituted 20th January, 1812, to the vicarages of Rosenallis, Rerymore, Kilmanman and Castlebrack, in the dio. of Kildare and Queen's county, vice James Saurin, who vacated by resignation.

XII. *Suggestions for Improvement, and Means for meliorating the Condition of the Poor.*

New implements of husbandry are wanting, and would be a great improvement, as the parish is chiefly agricultural. The introduction of good bulls would also tend much to improve the stock of black cattle.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

TABLE OF POPULATION.

<i>Houses.</i>	<i>Families.</i>	<i>Families chiefly employed in Agriculture.</i>	<i>Families chiefly employed in Trade, Ma- nufactures, and Com- merce.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total number of Inhabitants.</i>
2150	2240	1783	379	5622	6018	11640

No. 2.

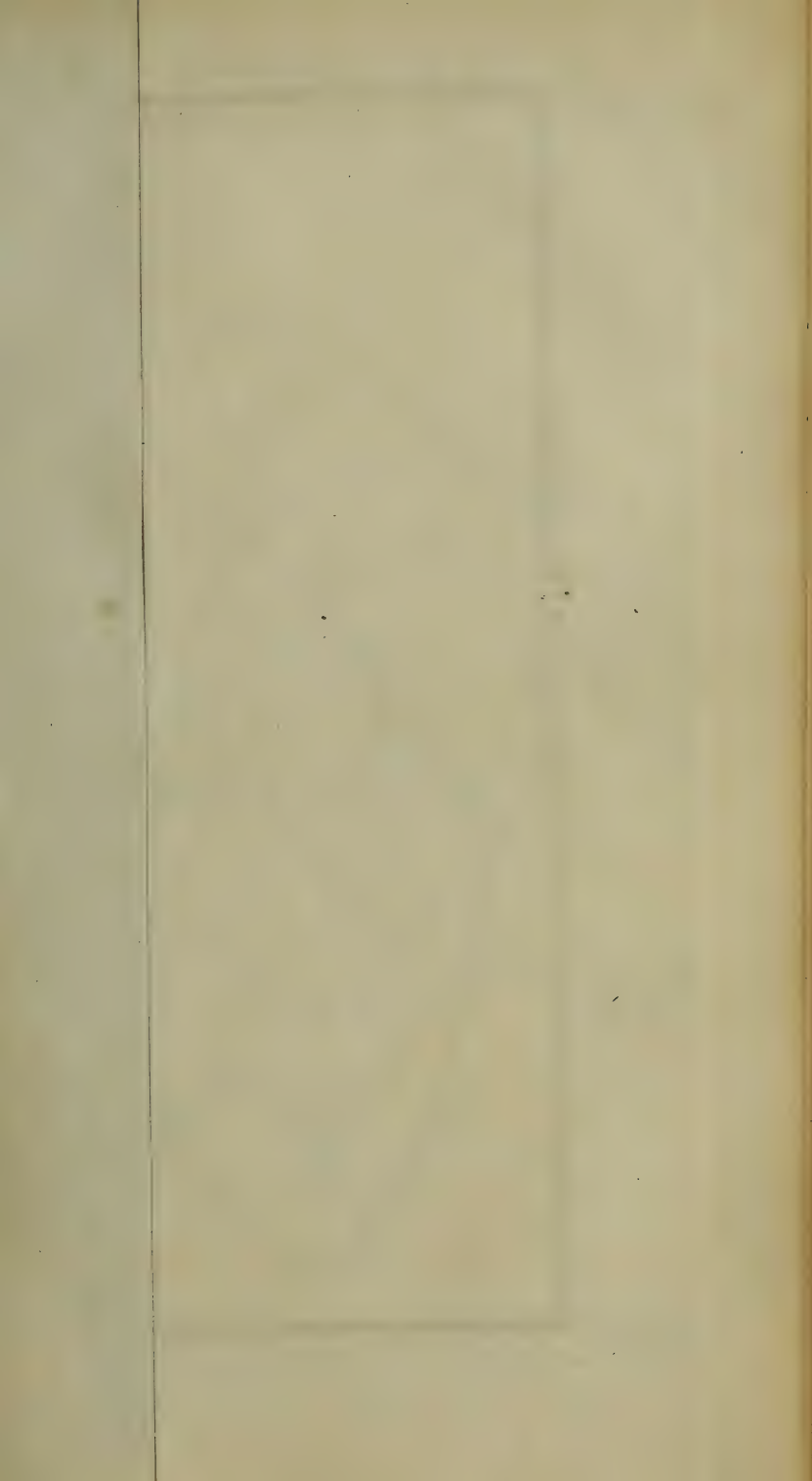
TOWNLANDS, &c. IN ROSENALLIS.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Derivation and English Name.</i>	<i>Proprietors.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
Brittas and Gorough	Brittas, v. sec. xi.; Garvach, rough district.	Lient. General Dunne.	1386
Castlecuffe	Meaning obvious.	Sir C. H. Coote, Bart.	609
Ballykeene	Pleasant town.	Representatives of Robert Pettigrew.	185
Parkmore	Great park.	Lord Sidney Osborne.	70
Parkbegg	Little park.	Ditto.	63
Laceamore	Great ploughland.	Lient. General Dunne.	82
Moniquid, &c.	Bog portion or share.		378
Rearymore	Not ascertained.	Sir C. H. Coote, Bart.	444
Rearybegg	Not ascertained.	Ditto.	178
Coolcheeknowell	Back of the house of Knowell.	Ditto.	28
Kilnaparson	Parson's church or wood.	Sir C. Molyneaux, Bt.	264
Ballinalugg	Town of the pit.	Ditto.	132
Graingealustly & Ballyfarrell	Grange of slothfulness, & Farrel's town.	Lient. General Dunne.	450
Mountmelick	Meaning obvious.	Marquis of Drogheda.	358
Aghnavally and Coolinagh	Ford or field of the passage, and Little retreat or retirement.	Ditto.	63
Derrene	Little oak wood.	Ditto.	74
Shaghleagh	Grey division set apart.	Ditto.	65
Derrylamogue & Cappanaskerry	Not ascertained.	Ditto.	950
Shanbeg & Garvagh	Little district of the rocks. Little happiness, and (perhaps) a fishing weir.	Ditto.	167
Ryne	Not ascertained.	Ditto.	139
Corbally	Crooked town.	Ditto.	281
Ballymoyle	Naked town.	John Pigott, Esq.	272
Cappard	High block.	Ditto.	689
Cappabegg	Little blocks.	Mrs. Wm. Pigott.	163
Meelick	Not ascertained.	Thomas Kemmis, Esq.	427
Commons between Lord Loftus and Mr. Pigott			555
Lower Ballikinneen	Lower Rabbit's town.	Representatives of Robert Pettigrew.	138
Upper ditto	Upper Rabbit's town.	Ditto.	126
Coolagh	Corner.	Jas. Hamilton.	215
Garryheddar	Not ascertained.	Warnford.	394
Ballynahown	River town.	Ditto.	98
Total			9432

No. 2.

TOWNLANDS, &c. IN ROSENALLIS—*continued.*

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Derivation and English Name.</i>	<i>Proprietors.</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Sharadniffe	Black stream, or valley.	Glebe.	126
New Glebe	Meaning obvious.	Glebe.	21
Castlebrack	Speckled castle.	Earl of Portarlington.	210
Mucklone.	Pigs marsh.	Ditto.	135
Cappalugg	Head or block of the pit.	Earl of Portarlington.	70
Ballymoyne.....	Town of the little plain.	Lord Sidney Osborne.	41
Rosskeene	Pleasant plain.	Ditto.	240
Cushbeg	Little cause (little foot?)	Ditto.	10
Ballygarnon.....	Little coal town.	Lord Sidney Osborne.	60
Kilcavan	Wood of the vale.	Earl of Portarlington.	140
Garrymore	Great garden.	Lord Sidney Osborne.	79
Coolevoran	Moran's retreat.	Ditto.	80
Derrymoylan	Wood of fruit.	Ditto.	11
Cooldugh	Black retreat.	Ditto.	75
Cappaloughah	Head of the lough.	Ditto.	150
Clondodough	Not obvious (Doody's retreat)	Ditto.	68
Grange	Obvious.	Earl of Portarlington.	9
Commons be- tween Kilcavan and Coolavoren }			142
Cullaghloneagh	Not obvious.		
Graingemore, and Cloncudgh with Forest }	Great Grange.—Second name not obvious. }	Lord Sidney Osborne.	190
Tinnehiuch.....	House of the island.	Sir Capel Molyneaux, Bt.	594
Drimnabehy.....	Ridge of birch.	Ditto.	70
Aghnoley.....	Caif field.	Ditto.	37
Collnamoney. } (upper) }	Retirement, or retreat of } the bog. }	Sharp.	127
Clarabill	Obvious.	Ditto.	310
Drummond	Ridge or summit.	John Helton, Esq.	130
Drynagh	Thorny place.	Alex. Jaffray, Esq.	114
Clooheen	Little stone.	James Hamilton, Esq.	434
Graige	Village.	Lord Sidney Osborne.	259
Newry	New fort.	Ditto.	139
Gurteene	Little garden.	Joshua Greene.	112
Vill. of Rosenallis		Marquis of Drogheda, and Thos. Kemmis, } Esq. }	5
Camira.....	Not obvious.	Glebe house.	92
Total.....			13703



Map of the
PARISH of SHRUEL
in the
DIOCESE of ARDAGH



No. XVII.

PARISH OF

S H R U E L,

(Diocese of Ardagh, and County of Longford,)

BY THE REV. JOHN GRAHAM, M. A. A NATIVE
OF THIS PARISH.

I. *Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

SHRUEL* is the ancient and modern name of this Name.
parish; the meaning of the word is a “bloody Etymology
stream;” which appellation it probably derived from
the circumstance of a memorable battle having been
fought here on the banks of the river Inny, which
divides it from an adjoining parish, barony, and
diocese.

It is situated fifty-two miles W. N. W. of Dublin; Situation.
being bounded on the north by the parish of Kilcom-
mack, on the south by the river Inny, on the east
by the parish of Tashinny, and on the west by Lough
Ree and the parish of Cashel. It lies in the barony
of Rathcline, county of Longford, diocese of Ardagh,
archdiocese of Armagh, and province of Leinster.

* In the Down Survey the parish is erroneously denominated
Shrewre.

Extent. Its length from east to west is about three miles, and its breadth from north to south about two miles and an half. It contains thirty townlands, in which there are 3000 acres of ground; two thirds of these are arable, and the remainder either bog or low meadow lands.

Rivers. The river Inny, which forms the southern boundary of this parish, is celebrated in the ancient history of Ireland for a battle fought near its confluence with Loughree, in the year of our Lord 960, between Mahon, King of Thomond, and Feargal, the son of Ruarc, a circumstance which gave the name of Ballymahon to the market town within it. Mahon, the elder brother, and predecessor of Bryan Boru, having made a truce with the Danes, collected at Cin-Curtha, and the places adjacent to Killaloe, a large number of sloops and flat-bottomed boats, in which he embarked, with a select body of troops; he passed up the river Shannon, making descents on different parts of the Connaught side of the river, raising contributions every where till he reached Loughree. Here he landed his whole force, and marched into the country of Feargal, the son of Ruarc. The King of a territory through which he passed narrowly watched his motions, and near the banks of the river Inny, which runs into Loughree, made a desperate attack on Mahon and his army; a bloody battle ensued, in which Feargal was defeated. In his flight he plunged into the river, where he threw away his shield, which fell into the hands of Mahon, and was for ages afterwards preserved as a trophy by his posterity, and used in their wars with the Princes of Connaught. An account of

this battle is preserved in a poem in the book of Munster.

The river Inny takes its rise near the town of Finea, on the borders of the counties of Westmeath and Cavan, and running through a beautiful and rich country, passes, in a westerly winding course, into that opening of the Shannon which is called Loughree. It is a remarkable coincidence, that two of the brightest ornaments of Ireland were born near the centre of it, in the county of Longford, and on the banks of the Inny, one upon each side of this lovely river, namely, Oliver Goldsmith and Maria Edgeworth, the former on the southern side of the river, at Pallas, near Ballymahon, and the latter on the northern, in Edgeworthstown-house. This river contains salmon, trout, pike, perch, roach, tench, bream, and eels; the latter are reckoned among the finest in Ireland both for size and flavour. It is said, that since the introduction of perch, about sixty years ago, all other kinds of fish, except eels, have grown scarce, both in Loughree and in the Inny.

There is a small lake in this parish called Lough-Lakes, drum, which empties itself into the Inny, and contains pike of a large size, but of inferior quality.

There are no mountains in this parish; but it can boast of two considerable hills, Mullavorna and Tir-Hills. lieken, both of them, but chiefly the latter, highly improved. The townlands of Ardoghill, Ballymulvy, Edera, Gurteen, Mullavorna, and Derry, contain bogs *Bogs*. named after their respective divisions; the largest of these is that of Derry. It is remarkable, that al-

though black oak is often found in these bogs, they contain little or none of the valuable fir which is raised in such abundance from the bogs in the southern and northern maritime counties.

Plantations.

There are no woods here, but a fine old grove exists at Ballymulvy, and some handsome planting is to be seen at Tirlicken, Ledwithstown, Drimracor, and Clonkeen, opposite Newcastle, the seat of the late Earl of Ross.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

**Limestone.
Marble.**

No mines or minerals have been discovered here, but limestone is to be found in great abundance. It is suspected that there are some marble quarries in or near the bed of the river, not far from the eel weir at Ballymahon; opposite to which, on the southern bank, is part of a large rock, from which a marble table is said to have been cut many years ago.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

Town.

There are no very modern buildings here except a few private houses in Ballymahon, which is the only town in this parish, and part of which extends over the Inny, towards the south, into another parish adjoining. This town is very beautifully situated on the river, has a daily post, a weekly market, and quarterly fairs. Its public buildings are, a church with a steeple and good bell, a Roman Catholic chapel, an indifferent old market house, and a handsome bridge of five lofty and well-constructed arches. Ballymahon is very conveniently situated for

inland trade. The river is navigable from thence to Loughree; and the Shannon and the Royal Canal pass near it, in the line extending from Dublin to Tarmonbarry. It has also the advantage of lying almost in the centre of a circle of thriving towns, near enough to trade with, and not too near to injure its own market, as it is situated ten miles from Longford, ten from Edgeworthstown, fourteen from Mullingar, twelve from Moate, ten from Athlone, and ten from Lanesborough. Ballymahon, together with the surrounding estate, is the property of the Shulldham family, to whom it descended by will from the Molyneaux, who purchased it from the family of Ash, before whom it was the property of Sir James Dillon, who forfeited it in the rebellion of 1641.

Besides the bridge at Ballymahon, there are two **Bridges**. others over the Inny in this parish: one at Clonkeen, leading to Newcastle, and the other near the ruins of the old parish church of Shrue. There are no villages, unless Ballybranegan may deserve that name. Neither is there any infirmary, work-house, or bridewell in it, although Ballymahon is one of those towns in which quarter sessions are held.

Ballymulvey, the residence of the late Rev. Samuel Achmuty, is the ancient family residence of the proprietors of the principal estate in the parish. It is beautifully situated on the north side of the river Inny, and surrounded by a majestic grove. In the year 1641, it was the residence and property of Sir James Dillon, senior, a member of Parliament for the county of Longford, who was so deeply implicated in the rebellion of that year, that he was (with

forty other members) expelled from the House of Commons on the 22d of July, 1642, and afterwards his property became forfeited to the Crown. His relative, Sir James Dillon, junior, resided at this time in Ballymahon, where there was a strong castle, near a ford over the Inny, and near the present bridge. Though this castle has been long since taken down, the cellars of it remain under an house erected on its ruins. Sir James Dillon, of Ballymulvey, was the grandson of Sir Robert Dillon, of Newtown, near Trim, who was Attorney-General to Henry VIII. who, on the 20th of March, 1545, granted to him and his heirs for ever, the monastery of friars preachers of Athnecarne, in Westmeath, (now called Ardna-craney) with its appurtenances.

On the 18th day of February, 1553, Queen Mary appointed this Sir Robert Dillon second Justice of the Queen's Bench, and one of her Privy Council, in which post he was continued by Queen Elizabeth, who, on the 9th of January, 1553, appointed him to be Chief Justice of the Common Pleas; and, on the 2d of May, 1569, in reward of his eminent services, he had a grant to him, and to his heirs-male, of the monastery of Shrowel, now called Abbey-shruel, with a further grant, dated the 20th of April, 1570, of so much lands in Annally (since called Longford county) as should amount to the extended rent of thirty pounds. He married Genet, daughter of Sir Thomas Plunket, of Dunsoughly, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, by whom he had issue, the founders of the Ballymulvey, Ballymahon, Dremistown, and Walterstown Dillons. One of his daughters was married to Sir Thomas Dillon of Drumraney; and his

eldest son, Sir Lucas Dillon, a Privy Councillor, and Chief Baron of the Exchequer, was the father of Sir James Dillon, the first Earl of Roscommon, and the maternal grandfather of Oliver Plunket, the titular archbishop of Armagh, who was executed, it is thought unjustly, for high treason in London, on the 1st of July, 1681. Several descendants of this ancient family, reside in different parts of this parish, and the adjoining parts of the county of Westmeath; and one of them, the late Valentine Dillon of Ballymahon in this parish, amassed a considerable property there, where he lived in constant habits of genuine hospitality, and died respected and regretted by all who knew him.

On the forfeiture of the Dillons, the estate of Ballymulvey passed into the hands of the Molyneaux family, and from them, by a failure of male issue, to the family of Shulldham. John Brady Shulldham, Esq. is the present proprietor of it. The town of Ballymahon is on this estate.

Tirlicken is the residence of Mathew Crawford, Tirlicken.
Esq. who holds it under the heirs of Capt. Smith, the brother-in-law of the late Lord Annaly. The present house was built by the late lord, a colonel in the army, during the life of his brother the first Lord Annaly; but the ancient house was somewhat nearer to Ballymahon, and is now in ruins. It was the residence and property of Sir Connel O'Farrel, knight, who was restored to his estates by the acts of settlement and explanation in 1662, in consideration of his having, (with four other distinguished

members of his family who were restored to their properties in the county of Longford by the same act), served under King Charles II. abroad, during Cromwell's usurpation. Traces of the old garden and orchard remain near the ruins of the old mansion-house of Tirlicken. When Oliver Goldsmith lived with his mother at Ballymahon, and was one of the pupils of the Rev. Mr. Hughes, the vicar of Shruel, who kept a classical school there, he got into a scrape by being detected with some of his school fellows robbing this orchard. The new house of Tirlicken was for some time the residence of the present Bishop of Meath, a distinguished native of this county.

Castlecór. Castlecór is one of the most singular and interesting mansion-houses in the province. It was erected on an elevated situation, by the late Rev. Cutts Harman, Dean of Waterford, who chose for his model the castle of Windsor. The principal room which is circular, and for which the chief part of the house has been sacrificed, commands delightful views of the river Inny, and different parts of this interesting neighbourhood, which are reflected by four large mirrors over each of the fire places in the center of the room. The floor is of marble, which renders this fine room very agreeable in the heat of summer, but cold, damp, and uncomfortable in winter. Four small, but pleasant bearded rooms, branch forward at equal intervals, from the great room in the center of this house, which has an underground story containing a large kitchen, and several other apartments. It was lately the residence of Mr. Peyton Johnstone, who held it under one of the heirs

of the late Earl of Ross, the nephew and representative of Dean Harman. On the 22d of July, 1751, the Rev. Cutts Harman of Newcastle in the county of Longford, afterwards Dean of Waterford, was married to Elizabeth, daughter of George Gore of Tenelick, second Judge of the Common Pleas. The townland, and chief part of the demesne of Ledwithstown, are in this parish, though the dwelling house and offices are in the parish of Kilcommack. It has been long the residence of a respectable family of the name of Ledwith, who possess a considerable property in this neighbourhood.

Drumnacor has been the residence of a branch of the family of Sandys, being built by the late John Sandys, Esq. who became the possessor of it, and the adjoining property, by an intermarriage with an heiress of the family of Jessop. There is a fine view of Loughree from this house.

Shrue Glebe is the residence of the Rev Francis M'Guire, and consists of an house and offices lately erected by him: it is situated near the old church of Shrue, but not closely adjoining, as the old glebe house was. Rockfield is an house lately built on part of the lands of Mullavorna, by R. C. Smith, Esq. agent to the present proprietor of the Tenelick estate. Moygh is also a new house; it is inhabited by Michael M'Dermott, Esq. Ardoghill was the residence of the family of Pope, and is now occupied by John Bickerstaff, Esq. There is an old established inn at Ballymahon, kept by Mrs. Lee, with carriages and horses for the accommodation of travellers. This house was long occupied by Mr. George Conway.

Roads.

The high road from Dublin to Castlebar, and other westerly parts of Ireland, passes through this parish in a line of two miles from east to west. Several roads branch from this line in a S. W. direction towards Loughree and 'Athlone, and also in a northerly course towards Edgeworthstown, Ardagh, and Longford.

Scenery.

The scenery in many parts of this parish is exquisitely beautiful. The river winds with a full deep stream till it passes through the demesne of Newcastle, when it falls through broken rocks for about a quarter of a mile; at Ballymulvy it grows deep and tranquil again, till impeded by the rocky islands, Eel Weir, and mills of Ballymahon, where it falls a considerable number of feet, into a deep bed through which it flows by the townlands of Castlecor to the ruined church of Shrue! where a bridge crosses it, from which it is navigable to Loughree and the Shannon. The views are particularly fine from Clonkeen, Ballymahon bridge, and the house of Castlecor. The superficial appearance of this parish is injured by a want of timber, except at Ballymulvey, where the trees are beginning to decay by age. The town parks of Ballymahon are kept in high order; but the general appearance of the parish is that of a light rocky soil.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

The only ecclesiastical ruins in this parish, are those of the old glebe-house and parish church at Shrue! surrounding the latter, is one of the most popular burial grounds in this country. It was once

Burial
place.

the cemetery of many of the chief families of this neighbourhood, as the Molyneaux, Ashes, Ledwiths, &c. &c. It now serves as the final receptacle of many respectable families in the middle ranks of life, many of whom have risen to considerable opulence in this parish by laudable and successful industry, among which are the Dowdalls, Cruises, M'Dermott's, &c. &c. A small burial fee is due by custom here to the vicar, or the person by him deputed to take care of the grave yard; a double charge is made for opening the ground within the area of the old church, which none have a right to do, except they can claim a descent from one of the three families first mentioned. There is no monumental inscription here, or in any other part of this parish, worth mentioning; a circumstance almost universal in Ireland, and strongly marking the low state of literature in it for many ages back.

The ruins of three castles may be traced in this parish, viz. that already mentioned at Ballymahon; Ruins of Castles. another at Castlecor, and the third on the river side, at Barnacor: those at Castlecor have been repeatedly dug up in the night time, by persons who had dreamed of finding hidden treasures there. The castle of Barnacor, and Lots castle on the other side of the river, were evidently erected to guard a ford which, in war time, must always have been considered of great importance; the same has already been observed of the castle of Ballymahon. Coins. Several coins of Queen Elizabeth's reign, and many of the base metal crowns and half crowns of King James the Second, have been found at different periods in this parish.

V. Present & Former State of Population, Food, &c.

Population By a census made here under an Act of Parliament, in the month of December, 1813, this parish then contained 3112 inhabitants, of whom 1498 were males, and 1614 females. The number of families were 552; of whom 46 were Protestants, and the remainder Roman Catholics. Ballymahon has been the residence of the titular bishop for the last thirty or forty years, who generally is the parish priest of Shrule, in the duties of which he is assisted by a coadjutor or curate. The last bishop erected a good house adjoining to the chapel, the scite of which has been removed from Moygh to Ballymahon.

Food. The farmers are not wealthy, but they live comfortably: their diet consists of bacon, fowl, eggs, potatoes and oatmeal, and milk. The diet of the lowest class is very indifferent, consisting chiefly of potatoes, with butter milk or salt; they seldom use any flesh meat, and yet are very strong, active, and healthy. There are few parts of Ireland in which persons of a moderate income can live cheaper or better than in this parish; where there is a good and cheap market for beef, mutton, fowl, and fresh water fish; an abundance of wild-fowl of all kinds, and the water fowl free from the fishy taste which spoils the flavour of those on the sea coast. Cod and haddock are brought here in their season from Galway, a distance of about fifty miles, and excellent oysters from the same coast; all of which can be purchased on very moderate terms.

The fuel mostly used is turf, which, though plenty **Fuel.** in many parts of the parish, is becoming scarce in Ballymahon: smiths and nailers use Kilkenny coal.

The general appearance of the inhabitants of this **Appear-** parish is prepossessing; they are usually of a middle **ance.** size, and many of them tall, with manly open countenances. They wear Kilkenny or home-made frize, **Dress.** with waistcoats and small clothes of the Manchester corded manufacture, strong shoes or brogues, and, until within a few years ago, when luxury began to creep in among the farmers, felt hats. The women of the lower classes wear red cloaks with hoods, which they seldom use, having their heads bound with an handkerchief; the other parts of their dress consist of cotton, flannel, linsey woolsey, and chequer. Those of the lowest order of females usually prefer walking barefooted, and carry their shoes in their hands or aprons on their way to market, or to mass, till they come within a few yards of the place where they think it necessary to arrange their dress, which is generally at a well or a brook, which serves the double purpose of reflecting their appearance and washing their feet.

The diseases which sometimes prevail here are, an **Diseases.** inflammatory and sometimes putrid fever in summer and autumn, with an ague, which our labourers, who have plenty of fuel at home, often contract in the county of Meath, where that article is scarce, when they go thither to labour at the harvest. Where there are men, women, and children, there must be diseases of all kinds, but this is as healthy a parish in general as any other that can be named. We have had many **Longevity.**

instances of persons attaining their ninetieth year ; and, among them, the late Mr. James Dowdall, sen. who could play on the violin, and talk of " other days," till within a few days of his death, which happened several years ago. His brother, George Dowdall, Esq also lived to a great age, and died possessed of a considerable fortune of his own making.

VI. The Genius & Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.

Genius and Disposition. The lower orders here are shrewd, intelligent, and industrious ; fond of manly exercises and amusements ; such as foot-ball, hurling, wrestling, and swimming, in most of which they excel. They assemble on summer Sunday evenings and amuse themselves by dancing, for the prize of a cake, which is exhibited on a pole to encourage the candidates by a view of the object of their ambition. It is to be regretted, that the Sabbath evening should be spent in this way, even though these assemblies should not lead the unwary into the commission of many improprieties, as they resort to and return from them.

Language. English is universally spoken here, though the great body of the people understand Irish, and many of them prefer using it. The manners of these people are mild and prepossessing, though they all possess what higher folks term a nice sense of honour ; that is, they would neither give nor take an affront ; they would be led, not driven ; and would rather be tricked out of a guinea than compelled to part with a penny.

Customs. As to customs, these bear a great similarity to those in other parts of Ireland. The new year, and the

first day of the month or week, are considered the properest time for commencing any undertaking. No man removes to a new habitation on a Friday, because it is one of the cross days of the year, and "a Saturday sitting makes a short sitting." For a fortnight before Shrove Tuesday, the great day for weddings, it is the practice for persons in disguise to run through the street of Ballymahon, from seven to nine or ten o'clock in the evenings, announcing intended marriages, or giving pretty broad hints for match-making, in these words, "Holla, the bride—the bride, A. B. to C. D." &c.; these jokes some times prove true ones. On St. Patrick's day, every one in the parish wears a shamrogue, which is drowned at night in a flowing bowl. The first of April is observed here pretty much in the same way as its observance in London, at the beginning of the last century, is described in the Spectator. On the first of May, green bushes are planted opposite every door, and the pavement covered with flowers. On midsummer eve, the bonfires are kindled with great regularity.

In the course of the summer, several individuals ^{Pilgrimages.} make pilgrimages, either to holy wells in the immediate neighbourhood of this parish, such as that of Killevally, or St. John's in the county of Roscommon, opposite to the ruined church of Cashel; or else to the more distant, but more celebrated, shrine of Loughderg, in the county of Donegal: to which latter place many persons, in very affluent circumstances, have been known to walk barefooted, as an act of penance for their sins. On the 29th of September, Michaelmas day, hunting commences, and every family that can procure a goose has one dressed

for dinner. Hallow eve is observed on the last day of October with the usual necromantic ceremonies, and the amusement concludes with a supper of gran-bree, that is, boiled wheat buttered and sweetened.

Customs.

For some weeks before Christmas, several musicians, generally pipers, serenade the inhabitants of Ballymahon about an hour or two before day-break, calling out, in the intervals, the hour of the morning, and stating whether it is cold, wet, frosty, or fine. This is called going about with "The waits;" and those who give themselves this trouble expect to be paid for it in the Christmas holidays, when they go about in the day light playing a tane, and receiving the expected remuneration at every door. At this festive season, the grown people, after feasting on their best fare, amuse themselves by dancing, blind-man's buff, questions and commands, and the relating or hearing legendary tales. The children make and paint circular crosses; expect Christmas boxes from their friends as a reward for the exhibition of their proficiency in writing in what are called Christmas pieces. A large candle is lighted on Christmas night, laid on a table, and suffered to burn out. If it should happen, by any means, to be extinguished; or more particularly if it should (as has sometimes happened) go out without any visible cause, the untoward circumstance would be considered a prognostic of the death of the head of the family. St. Stephen's day is always spent in bull-baiting. These customs are probably more ancient and universal in the west of Europe than is generally imagined, and therefore they have been particularised on this occasion.

It is customary to give entertainments at christ-Christen-
enings here; Protestants stand sponsors for Roman^{ings.} Catholic children; and vice versa. No woman thinks of taking any concern in her household affairs, until she has been churched after child-birth. Marriages^{Marriages.} are of course the scenes of festivity and mirth; a bridesman and bridesmaid are indispensable attendants on this occasion; and the usual ceremony of throwing the stocking, is too well known to need a description. A fine day for the bringing home, is reckoned an omen of good fortune, according to the popular adage:

“Happy is the bride that the sun shines on.”

A similar proverb renders a wet day desirable for a funeral:

“Happy is the corpse that the rain rains on.”

The wakes of all ranks of people here, are con-Wakes.
ducted pretty much on the old Irish plan, with this difference, that those of the higher order are conducted with somewhat more regularity than the rest. It is however impossible for any families that are respected in the country, to prevent their houses being crowded with their sympathetic neighbours on these melancholy occasions, and it would be reckoned meanness and ingratitude to deny them a moderate supply of refreshments. The corpse is kept in for two nights, during which time the Irish cry is seldom interrupted.

The funerals are generally attended by crouds, Funerals.
summoned by the bell of Ballymahon, which sounds with a full deep tone along the course of the river. Grave stones, with crucifixes, crests or family mottos,

mark the respective burial places. There is also another kind of monuments here, viz. those consisting of heaps of stones on the sides of roads, marking the spot on which untimely deaths have occurred, either by accident or design. Some of these are inclosed and planted with one or two ash trees.

This parish generally affords an opportunity to a medical practitioner to accumulate a fortune, provided he adds the vending of medicines to the practice of physic. This useful department is well filled at present, as it was for many years, by the late Doctor Donnelly, whose benevolence to the sick and indigent, as well as his great success with all descriptions of patients, will be long remembered in this parish. Vaccination is practised here.

Religious
opinions.

The great majority of the inhabitants are Roman Catholics, as appears from the population table; there is, however, a very respectable congregation in Ballymahon church, which is on the verge of the parish, and accommodates several families who live on the other side of the Inny.

VII. *The Education and Employment of Children, &c.*

Schools.

There are several schools in this parish; at one of which, in Ballymahon, boys are taught Greek, Latin, English, writing and arithmetic; the master's salary from a guinea, to half a guinea per quarter. There has been generally a classical school in this parish, for time out of mind. It has been already mentioned that the vicar, the Rev. Mr. Hughes, taught a school here, at which Oliver Goldsmith, and the grand-

father of Miss Edgeworth, with many of the sons of the neighbouring gentry, were educated. The Rev. Christopher Robinson, kept a boarding school for some years subsequent to 1782, at Ballymulvey, in this parish, which proved of incalculable advantage to many young people here, and among others, to the writer of this account. It were much to be wished that schools of this description were more generally and permanently established in Ireland. A classical school is by much the best one, even for the education of a boy not intended for any of the learned professions; for an initiation into the elements of the Latin and Greek languages, forms a very solid foundation for what is termed an English scholar; besides this kind of education is a fair trial of the capacity and genius of boys, and tends to elicit talents apparently dormant, which would otherwise have been unnoticed, uncultivated, and consequently lost to society—At present as the poet says:—

Full many a gem of purest ray serene
The dark unfathom'd caves of ocean bear,
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen;
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.

From what has been already mentioned, it may be concluded that the state of learning is not as low here, as it generally is in most parts of Ireland; there is, however, still some room for improvement.

We have no public library in this parish, except the books in a monastery on the lands of Tirlicken, may be deemed such; but among the books here is an English copy of Sir James Ware's antiquities of Ireland, which belongs to Mr. James Anthony, and which he has been for many years back in the habit

of leading through the neighbourhood, as a great
 MSS. curiosity. The parish can boast of no Irish manuscripts here; but an English one was discovered by the late Mrs. M'Dermott, among the papers of the Bryanton family, which fell into her hands at an auction, and has been so justly considered a curiosity, that it has been inserted in some late, but rare editions of Oliver Goldsmith's works.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

Ad:rowson. This parish is a vicarage in the gift of the Archbishop of Tuam; but the rectorial tythes belong to the Vicars Choral of St. Patrick's cathedral in Dublin, who usually set them to the vicar during his incumbency. The family of the late vicar were of another opinion, and for some time considered that they had a right to the benefit of this lease, but upon consulting lawyers, it was found to be otherwise.

Church. The seite of the parish church was many years ago removed to the town of Ballymahon, where there is an handsome church and steeple. There is also a large and well-built Roman Catholic chapel, erected some years ago in the town by subscription. The chapel was before that time on the lands of Moygh, about half a mile out of the town. There was formerly a monastery on the hill of Mullavorna; but the friars built a slated residence for themselves about thirty years ago, on the lands of Foighy.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

Mode of Agriculture. The modes of agriculture are such as are common through Ireland, either by ploughing up lea

land, or planting oats in it; or by covering the surface with stable or cow-house dung or compost, and planting potatoes in it by the spade. The usual rotation of crops is thus: 1st, potatoes, 2d, bere, (a species of barley for which there was formerly a good market here), 3d, oats; sometimes a second crop of oats laid down with grass seed. There are some rich grounds highly cultivated in the vicinity of Ballymahon, with several tracts of excellent meadow. The low lands along the river, produce a coarser and less valuable kind of hay, mixed with reeds, and called sedge, chiefly used for thatching and litter.

The horses and black cattle in this neighbourhood are of a good kind, and the latter has been much improved by the exertions of the late worthy Earl of Rosse, who imported several bulls of the best English breeds, and brought them to his highly cultivated demesne at Newcastle, on the borders of this parish. On the 21st of May, 1802, ten five year old bullocks were sold at the fair of Ballymahon for four hundred guineas; and ten four year old heiffers, for three hundred guineas. These cattle were the property of Lord Oxmantown, (afterwards Earl of Rosse,) and for size, shape and fat, could not be equalled; they were fed on common grass and hay.

Stocks of
Cattle.

The rents vary here, from twenty-five shillings to four pounds per acre. The general tenure on the Shuldham estate is for three lives or thirty-one years: a few leases for ever have been granted on the other properties. Labourers' hire fluctuates according to the season of the year, from ten pence to

Rent of
Land.

Imple-
ments.

one and eight pence a day, without diet; and from seven pence to ten pence with it. The implements of husbandry here, are the common Irish and Scotch plough; long narrow spades called loys; common turf spades; the old Irish car, and a few carts.

Fairs.

Fairs are held in Ballymahon on the Thursday before Ash-Wednesday, 11th of May, 11th of August, and 21st of November; that on the 11th of May is much resorted to by graziers, and is reckoned the best fair for cattle in the province, except that

Markets.

of Ballinasloe. A weekly market is held here on Thursdays, which affords an abundant supply of meal, potatoes, and all kinds of provisions. The tolls and customs of this town are set for upwards of an hundred guineas a year, and bring a large surplus to the holder of them, but the trouble in collecting them is very great.

X. Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.

Trade.

The trade of Ballymahon is as considerable as that of almost any other inland town of its size in Ireland. It consists in the sale or purchase of linen yarn and cloth, flannel and other woollen goods; groceries, hardware, grain of all kinds; flour, oatmeal, butchers meat, hides, tallow, butter, wines, spirits, porter, ale, &c. &c. There were formerly two distilleries, and several malt-houses here. The manufactures are of linen, frize, and a kind of linsey woolsey for waistcoats and petticoats; the two latter chiefly for home consumption. Leather, shoes, brogues, and nails, are manufactured here; as also bread, and a kind of gingerbread of an ex-

cellent description. It is scarcely necessary to add, that a number of taylors, hatters, hosiers, black smiths, carpenters, masons, wheelwrights and other artizans, find subsistence in this parish. Slates are brought hither from Killaloe and Broadford by boats, whose cargoes are landed near the bridge of Shrueel; and sometimes, but rarely, corn, turf, and other articles, are sent out of the parish by the same mode of conveyance.

Under this head may be noticed the Royal Canal, Royal Canal. which passes through this parish in its line from Dublin to the Shannon, at Tarmonbarry. It is advancing rapidly to its completion, and, by the late liberal aid received from Parliament, promises to be of essential service to this part of the country. A passage-boat, furnished with excellent accommodations, leaves Dublin every morning for Ballymahon, and sets out on its return next day. In the article of shop goods alone, this convenience of water carriage will save the traders of Ballymahon upwards of half the sum which they have hitherto paid for carriers. Some peculations, however, have been committed on hampers of wine, and other articles, conveyed in the boats, which require the utmost vigilance of the managers to prevent, as such practices must tend to deprive the public of the convenience of the canal, and compel them to resort to the old mode of land carriage, as being less hazardous, though more expensive. A few salutary examples would, however, set this point to rights, for it is not to be supposed that, *cæteris paribus*, boatmen are less honest than carriers.

XI. *Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.*

No natural curiosities have been hitherto known in this parish.

As Goldsmith was educated in Ballymahon by the Rev. Mr. Hughes, vicar of Shruel, the following brief memoir of his ancestry and life may be given with some propriety in the survey of this parish.

Oliver Goldsmith was born at Pallice, on the southern banks of the river Inny, adjoining the parish of Forgeny. “*Natus Forniaë in comitatu Longfordiensis in loco cui nomen dedit Pallas.*” The Goldsmith family has been long settled in Ireland; and though one of them (Dr. Isaac Goldsmith) was Dean of Cork in the year 1730, they seem to have resided chiefly in the province of Connaught. For several generations they regularly furnished a minister for the Established Church, being what is termed a clerical family.

On the 30th of December, 1643, the Rev. John Goldsmith, parson of Brashoule, in the county of Mayo, was examined upon oath by Henry Jones and Henry Brereton, two of the commissioners appointed for ascertaining the sufferings and losses of the Protestants in the rebellion and massacre of 1641. It appears by the examination, which is preserved in Sir John Temple's history, that this Mr. Goldsmith was also chaplain to Lady Mayo, and that when the English of that neighbourhood, among whom were thirteen clergymen, were conducted by Edmond Burke, under a promise of safe conduct, towards the county of Galway; he was saved from suffering in

the massacre of these unfortunate persons at Shruel, by that nobleman's precaution in sending him back, under pretence of attending to the duties of his chaplaincy.

The father of the poet was the Rev. Charles Goldsmith, who married the daughter of the Rev. Oliver Jones, diocesan schoolmaster of Elphin, in the county of Roscommon. By the residence of Mr. Charles Goldsmith at Pallice, on the 29th of November, 1728, when his son Oliver was born, it is probable he was curate of the chapel of ease in the parish of Cloncalla or Forgeny, which is now under the care of the Rev. James Moffett, Ballymahon. He was afterwards promoted to a benefice in the county of Roscommon, and the tradition in Ballymahon, from the authority of his widow, is, that it was to the parish of Ardcarne he was appointed. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Goldsmith settled in Ballymahon with her son Oliver, then a child, and lodged in the house now occupied by Mr. John Lanigan, at the corner of the entrance from Edgeworthstown road.

Here she lived in low circumstances, and indifferent health, "*nigra veste senescens*," till the year 1772 or 1773, at which time she was almost blind. A lady who died lately in this neighbourhood, and who was well acquainted with Mrs. Goldsmith, mentioned, that it was one of Oliver's habits to sit in a window of his mother's lodgings and amuse himself by playing on the flute. He was then of reserved and distant manners, fond of solitary walks, spending most of his time among the rocks and wooded islands of the river Inny, which is remarkably beautiful at Ballymahon.

The writer of this account purchased some old books, a few years ago, at an auction in Ballymahon, and among them an account book kept by a Mrs. Edwards and a Miss Sarah Shore, who lived in the next house to Mrs. Goldsmith. In this village record were several shop accounts from the year 1740 to 1756. Some of the entries in the earliest of these accounts ran thus—Tea by Master Noll—Cash by ditto; from which it appears, that the young poet was then perhaps his mother's only messenger. One of the accounts in 1756 may be considered a statistical curiosity, ascertaining the use and price of green tea in this part of the country sixty years ago—

Mrs. Goldsmith to Sarah Shore.		Dr.	
Brought forward,	£0	15	5
Jan. 16. Half an ounce of green tea...	0	0	3½
A quarter of a pound of lump			
sugar.....	0	0	3
A pound of Jamaica sugar.....	0	0	8
An ounce of green tea.....	0	0	7
Half a pound of rice.....	0	0	2
A quarter of an ounce of green			
tea.....	0	0	2

Goldsmith was always plain in his appearance, but when a boy, and immediately after suffering heavily from the small-pox, he was particularly ugly. When he was about seven years old, a fidler, who reckoned himself a wit, happened to be playing to some company in Mrs. Goldsmith's house; during a pause between the country-dances, little Oliver surprised the party by jumping up suddenly and dancing round the room. Struck with the grotesque appearance of the ill-favoured boy, the fidler exclaimed, *Æsop*, and the company burst into laughter, when Oliver

turned to them with a smile, and repeated the following lines—

“Heralds proclaim aloud, all saying;

“See *Æsop* dancing, and his monkey playing.”

This anecdote is given on the authority of a direct descendant of the Rev. Henry Goldsmith of Lissoy, curate of Kilkenny west, in the diocese of Meath, and the elder brother of our poet.

On the 11th of June, 1744, the following entry was made on the books of Trinity College, Dublin. “*Olivarius Goldsmith siz. Filius Caroli, clerici, ann. a gen. 15, natus in Comitatu Westmeath, educatus sub ferula M. Hughes, admissus est. Tutor, M. Wilder.*” The error with respect to the county in which he was born, arose from the vicinity of Pallice to the borders of Westmeath; or as stated by one of his biographers, from the circumstance of his father having, at the time he entered college, lived in that county; but it is probable that he did not enter college till some time after his father’s death; for from what has been stated above it appears, that his mother and he were living together in Ballymahon, in the year 1740, where his father never lived. The tutor mentioned in this record, was the Rev. Theaker Wilder, a younger son of the family of Castlewilder, in the county of Longford: he was remarkable for the excentricity of his character, from the severity of which, our poet suffered heavily, while he was under him. Goldsmith’s obtaining a sizer’s place at the age of fifteen, is a decided proof of his having gone to college duly prepared, though he did not distinguish himself there.

June 15, 1747, Oliver Goldsmith obtained his only laurel in the University of Dublin, that of an exhi-

bition on the foundation of Erasmus Smyth, Esq. and in this year he was publicly admonished for having been concerned in a riot, and pumping a bailiff, who had invaded the privileged precincts of the College.

February 27, 1749, he was admitted a bachelor of arts two years after the regular time, and he then qualified himself for admission to the College library. In the month of December, 1753, we find him in Edinburgh, a medical student, from which place he wrote a letter to his friend Robert Bryan-ton, of Ballymahon, Esq. published in a late edition of his works. The original of this letter was preserved by the late Mrs. M'Dermott, of Ballymahon. The edition in which this letter has been published is that of "Otridge and Son, London, 1812."

1756.—About the breaking out of the war in this year, Goldsmith returned from the Continent to England in great distress, having gone from Edinburgh on his travels in the year 1754.

December 27, 1757.—He wrote a letter to Daniel Hudson, Esq. at Lissoy, near Ballymahon (who had married his sister) in which he says, he could wish from his heart that Mr. and Mrs. Hudson, Lissoy, and Ballymahon, and all his friends there, would fairly make a migration into Middlesex; adding, that as on second thoughts this might be attended with inconvenience, "Mahomet should go to the mountain;" and he promised to spend six weeks between Ballymahon and Lissoy, the ensuing summer. This however, did not occur, his fate was never more to see, "the spot where first his breath he drew." In Ottridge's edition, Lissoy is erroneously spelled Lishoy. It is generally believed in

this neighbourhood, that it was from Lissoy, that Goldsmith drew the enchanting scenery of the Deserted Village. His brother was the village preacher there, when he dedicated his Traveller to him. The clergyman's mansion is still well known; the parish church of Kilkenny west "tops a neighbouring hill;" the lake and the mill lie between it and the mansion house; the hawthorn tree still exists, though mutilated "*laniatum corpore toto*," by the curious travellers, who cut pieces from it as from the royal oak, or from the mulberry tree of Stratford-upon-Avon. The village alehouse has lately been rebuilt, and ornamented by the sign of the "three jolly pigeons."

A lady from the neighbourhood of Portglenone, in the county of Antrim, visited Lissoy in the summer of 1817, and was fortunate enough to find in a cottage adjoining the alehouse, the identical print of "the twelve good rules," which ornamented that rural tavern, along with "the royal game of goose; the wooden clock," &c. &c. where Goldsmith drew from real life, the fascinating imagery of his Deserted Village. And here it may be observed, that his description of the alehouse, may be considered as applicable to most of the habitations of the farmers in the neighbourhood of Lissoy and Ballymahon, where, until the late introduction of modern expensive habits, every parlour floor was sanded, or flagged, had "its bed by night, a chest of drawers by day," and exhibited either on a chimney board, or in an open corner cupboard, a parcel of broken or unbroken pieces of china, glass, or stained earthen-ware; while the walls were covered with gun racks, fishing tackle, and homely prints, among which latter ornaments, "the twelve good rules, and royal game of

goose," always obtained a conspicuous place. Thus was Jemmy Anthony's parlour once ornamented in the old mill of Ballymahon; which had been by himself or his ancestors occupied for a century; but in his early days it boasted the addition of violins, hautboys, flutes, and a French horn, with which he and his ingenious brothers often made sonorous melody on the lovely banks of the Inny, about forty years ago, and delighted the villagers who assembled in the summer evenings on the bridge to hear them.—But, oh! the ravages of time! the music floats down the stream no more—all is silent, except the roar of the waters through the broken eel weirs: the mill has fallen across the water course; and the musicians, "their fates as various as the roads they took," are all gone down to the grave, with the solitary exception of poor Jemmy, who, surviving the desolation which surrounded him, sticks like a wall flower in an adjacent tenement;

And in his purse since few bright coins appear,
He mounts the rostrum as an auctioneer.

1758.—In this summer Goldsmith wrote a letter, directed to the post office of Ballymahon, for Daniel Hudson of Lissoy, Esq. informing that gentleman of his appointment to the situation of physician to one of the British factories on the coast of Coromandel, with the salary of one hundred pounds a year, and considerable perquisites. This project was never realised.

1759—August 7th, Goldsmith wrote to Edward Mills, Esq. near Roscommon, requesting him to interest himself in a subscription to his essay on the present state of taste and literature in Europe. His feelings were deeply wounded, by being on this oc-

casion treated with neglect, not only by Mr. Mills, but by another friend, a Mr. Lawder, to whom he had written on the same subject.

1761.—In this year he published his celebrated *Vicar of Wakefield*, in which it is well known in this neighbourhood that he drew an accurate picture of his brother and sister-in-law, the inhabitants of “the modest mansion” of Lissoy. On the 31st of May, in this year, he received his first visit from Dr. Johnson.

1762.—In this year he published his *Citizen of the World*, in 2 vols. 12mo.

1763.—In the spring of this year he had lodgings at Canonbury-house, near Islington, where he wrote his letters on English History, erroneously ascribed to Lord Littleton.

• 1765.—In this year the *Traveller* appeared, and the author was introduced to the Earl of Northumberland in London after that nobleman was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and recommended his brother Henry for preferment. In this year his essays were published; and soon afterwards he petitioned Lord Bute, in vain, to be allowed a salary to enable him to penetrate into the interior of Asia. His memorial was unnoticed and neglected.

Goldsmith, on this occasion, wanted such a friend as Lord Halifax proved to Addison, on the arrival of the news of the victory of Blenheim. The Lord Treasurer, Godolphin, meeting this nobleman, in the fulness of his joy told him, it was a pity the memory of such a victory should be ever forgotten; he added, that he was pretty sure Lord Halifax, who was so distinguished a patron of men of letters, must know some person whose pen was capable of doing justice

to the action. Lord Halifax replied, that he did indeed know such a person, but would not desire him to write upon the subject his Lordship had mentioned. The Lord Treasurer entreating to know the reason of so unkind a resolution, Lord Halifax briskly told him, that he had long with indignation observed, that while too many fools and blockheads were maintained in their pride and luxury at the expense of the public, such men as were really an honour to their country, and to the age they lived in, were shamefully suffered to languish in obscurity; that, for his own part, he would never desire any gentleman of parts and learning to employ his time in celebrating a ministry who had neither the justice or generosity to make it worth his while. The Lord Treasurer calmly replied, that he would seriously consider of what his Lordship had said, and endeavour to give no occasion for such reproaches for the future; but that, in the present case, he took it upon himself to promise, that any gentleman whom his Lordship should name to him as a person capable of celebrating the late action, should find it worth his while to exert his genius on that subject. Lord Halifax, upon this occasion, named Mr. Addison. The celebrated poem called the Campaign was published soon afterwards, and the author found the Lord Treasurer as good as his word.

1768. January 29.—The “Good-natured Man,” Goldsmith’s first comedy, appeared.

1769.—In this year the “Deserted Village” appeared; and on the 13th of June the author engaged with Thomas Davies to write an History of England, in four volumes octavo, for five hundred pounds.

1770.—In the month of January this year, Goldsmith wrote to his younger brother Mr. Maurice

Goldsmith. In this letter, he complains that he had written above an hundred letters to his friends in Ireland, to which he received no answer: he inquired in it for his mother, his brother Hodson, his sister Johnson, and the family of Ballyoughter.

In the year 1771, he wrote the life of Lord Bolingbroke, which he prefixed to a dissertation on parties. It was re-published in 1775 under his own name.

1772. April 10.—Mr. Thomas Woolsey, of Dundalk, wrote to Goldsmith to rectify an error in his History of England, respecting Dr. Walker, the celebrated governor of Londonderry, whom he had in that work, denominated a dissenting minister, though he was rector of Donoughmore, in the county of Tyrone.

1773. March 15.—The “Mistakes of a Night” appeared first at Covent Garden theatre. The plot of this comedy was taken by the author from an incident in his own life. On his way from Edgeworthstown to Ballymahon, he passed through the village of Ardagh one night, and was directed to the “head inn” by one Cornelius Kelly, a humorous fencing-master, who had been the instructor of the great Marquis of Granby. This inn proved to be the residence of the landlord of the town, and adjoining the estate of Mr. Fetherston, grandfather of the present Sir Thomas Fetherston, Baronet. The young poet was hospitably received there; his mistake was immediately perceived by Mr. Fetherston, who humoured him in it, and it was not till next morning, when he had finished his breakfast, and called for the bill, that he discovered his error.

In the beginning of the year 1774, he received a legacy of fifteen pounds, from the executors of his uncle the Rev. Thomas Contarine, sometime rector

of Kilmore, near Carrick-on-Shannon. About the same time he published his *History of the Earth and Animated Nature*; he died on the 4th of April.

Memorable
Occurrences.

The remarkable occurrence from which the town of Ballymahon in this parish, derives its name, has been already mentioned. In the year 1793, this town was the scene of much riot and confusion, by a violent opposition made to the balloting for the militia. The Earl of Granard's carriage was broken by the mob, and his Lordship was forcibly driven out of the town on the day he arrived there to hold his ballot; he returned however, on that day week, with a strong detachment of the Monaghan militia, and succeeded in dispersing the rioters, and balloting for the men to be raised.

On the 9th of June, 1818, the inhabitants of this town, and of the adjacent estate, exemplified in a strong manner, the gratitude and attachment of an Irish tenantry, towards a kind and indulgent landlord. At ten in the morning of that day, it was announced to them, that the long contested law suit between Shuldham and Matthews, had been finally decided, by the unanimous decision of the House of Lords in favour of the former, whose family had been endeared to them and their ancestors, by countless acts of kindness, for many generations back. The news spread quickly round the country; each heart beat with joy, and young and old made immoderate preparations for a general illumination. At nine in the evening, the neighbourhood, for miles round, appeared studded with fires, not only by the tenantry of Captain Shuldham, but also by

many of the neighbouring gentlemen, who were not his tenants. At ten o'clock, the town being brilliantly illuminated, the numerous and respectable inhabitants paraded the streets, expressing their heartfelt joy on the occasion; in short, a more impressing or more pleasing spectacle has seldom been seen, for the grateful effusions of the heart were visibly marked in the countenances and conduct of all. Indeed, it could not be otherwise; for no man better merited the gratitude and love of a numerous and respectable tenantry, than Captain Shuldham, and his active and benevolent brother and agent, M. W. Shuldham, the descendants of a family long since deservedly ennobled, and the worthy representatives of the Molyneaux in the Ballymulvey and Ballymahon estate. If every Irish landlord, in these trying times, would follow the example of Captain Shuldham, Ireland would be contented and happy.

List of Incumbents, extracted from the First Fruits' Incumbents.
Records—

Edwardus Gublin, instit. anno 1638, ad vicar. de Shrower, non tax.

Bartinus Heardman, institut. circiter 9^o die Feb. ad vicar. de Shrower in com. Longford, non tax.

Rev. Edward. Hughes, cler. collat. fuit 7^o die mensis Feb. 1717, ad et in vicar. de Shrue, in com. Longford. et dioc. Ardagh.

Grey Stone, v. of Shrue, 10 Dec. 1754.

Rev. Samuel Ahmuty, v. of Shrue, 27 Feb. 1769, Longford.

John Leahy, v. of Shrue, (no date.)

Francis Maguire, instit. 11 Aug. 1806, v. of Shrue, Longford.

XII. *Suggestions for Improvement, and Means for meliorating the Condition of the Poor.*

From what has been stated, it will be readily admitted, that it would be desirable that the proprietor of the principal estate in this parish should make it his chief residence, as soon as it may be convenient to him to do so. It would afford genuine pleasure, as well as substantial benefit, to the tenants of the Ballymulvey estate, to find their worthy landlord settled in the ancient and lovely residence of his ancestors on the side of the river Inny.

Ballymahon stands much in need of a new church, the congregation resorting to it having greatly increased within the last twenty years. The market house and the mill are nearly in an equal state of ruin, which ought not to be the case in one of the best market towns in Leinster. A market jury, to regulate weights and measures, and to punish forestalling, would be very necessary here. It ought to have been already stated, that the charitable inhabitants of this interesting parish have established a dispensary in Ballymahon, for the relief of the sick poor, under the management of Dr. Gibbons, who very deservedly receives a liberal salary for his trouble. A branch of the Association for promoting Religion and Virtue, by the distribution of bibles, prayer-books, &c. and a Savings' Bank on the plan of those established in many other parts of Ireland, would also be very desirable in Ballymahon.

APPENDIX.

TOWNLANDS IN SHRUEL.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Derivation.</i>
Ardoghill.....	High wood of yews, or yew trees.
Aughafan.....	Chapel ford, or chapel field.
Ballymahon.....	Mahonstown.
Ballymulvey	Mulveystown.
Ballybranigan	Braniganstown.
Barnacor.....	Crooked gap.
Belanure.....	Green passage or way.
Clonkeen.....	Handsome retreat or retirement.
Cartronboy.....	Yellow quarter.
Castlecarr.....	Crooked castle.
Derrogue.....	Little wood.
Derry	Oak wood.
Doonacurry	Knight's fort.
Drumnacor.....	Ridge of the border or limit.
Drinan.....	Place of black thorns.
Edera	Not ascertained.
Gurteen	Little garden.
Kiltoffry.....	Not ascertained.
Ledwithstown	Meaning obvious.
Laragh.....	A field where a battle was fought.
Lissaniska	Court or enclosed dwelling on or of the water.
Loughantee.....	Lough of the house.
Monifad	The long bog.
Moygh.....	Not ascertained.
Mullavorneen.....	The dear round hill.
Painspark	Meaning obvious.
Robinstown	Meaning obvious.
Shruel	Not ascertained ; probably <i>Sruth al</i> , rocky stream.
Tirlickin.....	Country or district of small flags.
Tully	Hill or eminence.

No. XVIII.

PARISH OF

ST. MARY SHANDON,

(Diocese and County of Cork.)

BY THE REV. JOHN QUARRY, RECTOR AND VICAR.

I. *Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

- Name.** ST. Mary Shandon is the ancient, as well as the modern name of the parish, called so from the contiguity of the old parish church to the castle of Shandon, and to distinguish it from the church and parish of St. Mary de Narde, which lay at the south side of the river Lee, which latter church does not now exist. It is situated in the diocese and county of Cork, and is bounded on the south by the river Lee, with the exception of the small quay called Kyril's quay, and part of Bachelor's quay, which are at the south side of the river, and belong to the said parish. On the north, it is bounded by the parishes of Whitechurch and Blarney; on the east, by the parish of St. Ann Shandon; and on the west, by that of Kerriecuppane. It contains forty-two plough lands, situated partly in the suburbs, and partly in the liberties of the city, besides those parts which are within the bounds of the city. Its extent
- Etymology**
- Situation.**
- Boundaries**
- Contents.**
- Extent.**

from east to west, is about $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile Irish; and from north to south, nearly one mile. Part of the plough lands is laid down and occupied for villas; but the greatest part consists of arable, meadow, and pasture land. The writer does not know the number of acres contained in these plough lands.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

Nothing deserving of particular notice is to be found, relating to the subject of this section.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

The new city gaol is at present building; its Prison. site is at Sunday's-well, a beautiful and healthy outlet. The building, if finished according to the intended plan, will be very ornamental, and both secure and commodious; the old city gaol is partly in this parish, and partly in that of the Holy Trinity. An alms' house has been built in Blarney-lane, AlmsHouse and endowed by Abraham Morris, Esq. in the year 1724: it contains apartments for four poor men, and four poor women, Protestants. A. Morris, Esq. appoints to the apartments. The roads leading Roads. from Cork to Blarney, and to the county of Kerry, pass through the parish.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

The churches of St. Mary Shandon and of St. Churches. Catharine, are both named in the charter of King Edward the IVth, dated 1462. The church of St. Catharine was demolished by the Irish rebels in the

reign of James II. and its site is at present unknown. The old church of St. Mary of Shandon, which was contiguous to Shandon castle, was demolished by the Irish in or about the year 1690. The present church stands on a piece of ground granted to Walter Neal, rector and vicar of the parish, by Henry Lord Viscount Sidney, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, in the year 1693, by indenture, bearing the same date.

The instrument states to the following effect, that
“ Whereas the church of St. Mary Shandon was defaced, razed and demolished by the Irish Papists, and continueth unbuilt, so that there wanteth a church for the Protestants of said parish to assemble themselves in, to hear divine service celebrated: and whereas the place where the former parish church stood, lyeth so near and contiguous to the castle called Shandon, and toucheth so on the fortifications near the same, that the re-building the church on the ground where it formerly stood, may be a prejudice to their Majestie’s said castle and fortifications, and may hereafter be made use of against them, by foreign enemies or intestine rebels; for prevention whereof, and of the danger to which the said church, if rebuilt in the same place as formerly, may in all likelihood be hereafter exposed in times of trouble, of being defaced and demolished, to the great offence of all well-minded and religious worshippers of God—therefore, and at the earnest desire of the said Walter Neal, and other Protestant inhabitants of said parish of Shandon, and for the honour of Almighty God, the said Lord Viscount Sydney doth grant unto the said Walter Neal, clerk,

vicar of the parish of St. Mary Shandon, all that and those, a garden or parcel of land on the east side of Mallow-street, in the north suburbs of the city of Cork, together with two houses, an outhouse and backside thereunto belonging; and all and singular the houses and tenements thereon built, now or late in the tenure and occupation of Thomas Austin and others, which said premises being heretofore the estate of Ignatius Goold, late of said city of Cork, merchant, and by him forfeited to the crown of England, on account of the late rebellion of this kingdom, are amongst other things by their Majesties granted unto the said Henry Lord Viscount Sydney, his heirs and assigns for ever; to have and to hold the said granted premisses, with their appurtenances, unto the said Walter Neal, and his successors, vicars of the said parish of St. Mary Shandon, for ever, to be held of their Majesties, their heirs and successors, Kings and Queens of England, &c. And these presents do witness, that these premises are granted, &c. unto the said Walter Neal, and his successors, under the special trust and confidence, and to no other use, intent, or purpose whatever, than that thereon shall be built a church, for the Protestant inhabitants, &c."

In consequence of the above grant, the present church was built on the ground so granted. The act of vestry whereby the sum requisite for building the church was assessed on the parish, bears date September 25, 1693, shortly after which, the building was commenced. It appears that the church was ready for the erection of the pews, &c. by the 7th May, 1696, on which day an act of vestry was passed, to regulate the building of pews, &c.

No antiquities are to be found in this parish. Shandon Castle has been long since demolished; on its site now stands a Dominican friary of modern erection, with a chapel annexed. In the line of the old wall of the castle stands the east end of the chapel, which forms part of the line of demarcation between St. Mary's and St. Ann Shandon, on the east of the former parish. A monastery stood in the parish where the north wall is now situated, denominated Shandon Abbey, of which no vestiges remain, except an ancient well, and part of an old chapel, now converted into a store.

V. *Present & Former State of Population, Food, Fuel, &c*

Population The number of inhabitants, houses, and families, within the union of St. Mary Shandon and St. Catherine, is as follows:—Number of houses, 1641; families in ditto, 2800; houses building, 15; houses uninhabited, 49; families employed in agriculture, 546; ditto employed in trades, &c. 2091; ditto not comprised in the preceding classes, 163.—Total males, 5579; total of females, 7329.—Total of inhabitants, 12,908; of which number 1190 are Protestants, and the rest Roman Catholics.

VI. *The Genius & Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.*

Genius and Disposition The poorer people are much addicted to drunkenness, so that there is great sale for spirituous liquors in the parish, and whiskey shops are very numerous. The lower orders are, for the most part, very ignorant; and owing to their inability to read, and other deplorable obstacles, are not as accessible to

useful knowledge, especially that conveyed in the Scriptures, as could be desired. The language used Language. by the people in general is English: the lower orders in their dealings with one another frequently speak the Irish language, but this last is falling a good deal into disuse amongst them; the tradespeople transacting their business in English for the most part, so that the poor Irishman now finds it his advantage to know that language for more easy communication in his dealings.

VII. The Education and Employment of Children, &c.

Idleness and vice characterize the children of the lower classes, who, however, are, of late years, beginning to pay more attention to the education of their youth than usual. The children are mostly Employment. bred to the trades of their parents: the predominating one in the parish being that of slaughtering cattle for the merchants and markets. This trade is greatly calculated to brutalize the feelings of those engaged in it, and its consequences are too observable in cruelty to animals; such as the sports of bull-baiting, dog-fighting, &c. &c. from which no efforts have as yet been effectual to restrain them. Some opulent victuallers, indeed, who reside in the parish, are decent and moral, and have regard for religion; but the lower orders engaged in the same occupations are marked by the very opposite qualities. The Woollen Manufacture. woollen manufacture has been extensively carried on for many years in this parish by Richard Lane, Esq. and Sons. There is also a whiskey distillery on a Distillery. very large scale, conducted by William and Thomas Wise, Esqrs. St. Mary Shandon has no endowed

Schools.

school: there is one respectable boarding-school for females. Two or three elementary schools are kept by Roman Catholics, and two Protestant schools, of the same description, but on a very moderate scale, which arises from the situation being inconvenient for the settlement of a respectable schoolmaster, and not so central as to afford a prospect of a sufficient number of children, whose parents could pay for their education.

Green Coat Hospital.

The master of the Green Coat Hospital is the licensed schoolmaster of the parish of St. Mary Shandon. This building, though strictly in the parish of St. Ann Shandon, adjoins the boundary of St. Mary Shandon. Many of the Protestant children of the parish are educated at a free school, supported by voluntary subscriptions, and kept in the adjoining parish of St. Peter, where upwards of 300 are instructed gratuitously, under the superintendence of the present clergyman of St. Mary Shandon, and several respectable gentlemen of the city. Of this school her Royal Highness the Princess Augusta has graciously condescended to become the patroness.

Library.

The public library belonging to St. Mary Shandon (since the division of St. Ann Shandon from it) is kept in the latter parish, in the Green Coat Hospital. It does not contain any MSS. or documents relative to Ireland.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

Union.

The parish of St. Mary Shandon, a rectory and vicarage, is and has been from time immemorial, if

the writer's information be correct, episcopally united to the rectory of St. Catharine, near Shandon. The parishes of St. Paul and St. Ann Shandon originally formed parts of St. Mary Shandon, from which they were separated with consent of the patrons, and by act of the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council, and erected into distinct parishes, the former in the year 1728, the latter in 1737. The Earls of Kildare and Barrymore are the alternate patrons of the parish: the right of next presentation, for one turn, has been sold from time to time.

The only Protestant place of religious worship is *Church* within the parish church of St. Mary Shandon. Several glebe-houses are situated in Shandon-street, or Mallow lane; four of them are built on part of Gould's ground, and adjoin the church. They have been all leased for 41 years by the rectors, pursuant to an Act passed in the 1st year of Geo II. for rendering more effectual an Act entitled an Act for the better enabling the clergy having cure of souls to reside on their respective benefices! The tythes of the parish *Tythes* are very trifling, great part of the land having been abbey ground, claiming exemption from tythes. Tytheable articles are hay, potatoes, wheat, oats, and barley.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

The ground set within the parish, especially at Sunday's Well, for villas, brings as high a rent as *Rents of Land*. from 20 to 30 guineas an acre per annum. The ground for tillage varies very much in value, some being taken at ten pounds or ten guineas per acre.

Market. A market for cattle is held in the parish on Mondays and Thursdays: a meat and vegetable market is also held every day.

X. Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.

None.

XI. Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.

Incumbents.

The following list of Incumbents has been extracted from the First Fruit's records—

Gualter. Neale, admiss. fuit 20^o die May, 1681, ad rect. 60s. ad vic. 70s. Scæ. Mariæ Shandon, dioc. et com. Corke.

Jacobus Ward, cl. in artib. magr. institutus fuit 3^o Jan. 1726, ad r. et vic. de Sanct. Mariæ Shandon in dioc. Corcag. et com. Corke, p. promotionem Henrici Maule sacre theologiæ doctoris ad episcopatum Clonensem ultimi ibidem incumbentis vacant.

Thomas White, A. M. preb. Kilnaglory, r. et v. St. Mary, 28 May, 1751, Cork.

Richard Gibbins, instit. 25 May, 1772, r. St. Mary Shandon, £3, 10s. r. St. Catherine near Shandon.

John Quarry, instituted 7 Jan. 1807, vice R. Gibbins, who held from May, 1772, and vacated by resignation; r. St. Mary Shandon £3, v. same, r. St. Catherine near Shandon.

XII. Suggestions for Improvement, and Means for meliorating the Condition of the People.

None.

No. XIX

UNION OF

STRADBALLY,

(Diocese of Lismore, and County of Waterford.)

BY THE REV. JOHN DEVEREUX, VICAR.

I. *The Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

STRADBALLY is both the ancient and modern Name, name of this parish, which lies in the barony of Decies without Drum, county of Waterford, and diocese of Lismore. It is situated about thirteen miles west Situation, of Waterford, and is bounded on the south by the sea; Boundaries on the north by the parish of Kilrosanty; to the west by the parishes of Clonea and Kilrosanty; and on the east by the parish of Ballylaheen. This last parish, which is united to it, is in the barony of Upperthird, and about eleven miles west of Waterford, being bounded on the south by the sea; on the north by the parish of Fewes; on the east by the river Mahon; and on the west by the parish of Stradbally. Clonea, which is also united to Stradbally, is in the barony of Decies without, and is situated about seventeen miles west of Waterford, and bounded on the south by the sea; on the north by the parishes of Kilrosanty and Kilgobnet; on

the west by the parishes of Dungarvan and Kilgobnet; and on the east by the parishes of Stradbally and Kilrostanty.

Divisions. The townlands of Stradbally are 35 in number, extending nearly four miles east and west, and four north and south: those of Ballylaheen 19, extending two miles east and west, and four north and south; and those of Clonea 7, extending about one mile and a quarter east and west, and two and an half north and south. In the parish of Stradbally there are about 7500 acres statute measure; 2500 under tillage, 130 acres meadow, and the remainder, pasture with extensive turbary. Ballylaheen contains 5000 acres; 1200 of which are under tillage, 80 meadow, and the remainder pasture, with several acres of turbary; and Clonea 2300 acres; nearly 1000 of which are under tillage, 50 meadow, and the remainder pasture.

Rivers. There are no mountains or remarkable hills in these parishes. The rivers in Stradbally are the Tay and Dalligan, and that in Ballylaheen is called the Mahon; the three, deriving their sources from the Commorah mountains, run in a southern direction, and empty themselves in the sea. Stradbally has three coves, Stradbally, Ballyvoile, and Ballyvoney; and Ballylaheen one, Ballydivane, from whence, as well as from the strands of Bonmahon and Clonea, great quantities of sand and sea-weed are drawn for manure. There is no woodland in these parishes, except about one hundred and eighty acres in that of Stradbally, the property of Robert Uniacke, Esq.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

The coast along the union abounds with copper and lead ore, ^{Copper and Lead Mines} Mines have been opened within these few years in the parish of Ballylaheen, but with little success as yet, most probably owing to want of skill and perseverance. The natural manures of ^{Manures.} the parishes are sand and sea-weed, with the addition of lime in the parish of Clonea.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

In Stradbally there are three bridges called Fox's, ^{Bridges.} Castle, and Cloughlowrish; the first over a branch of the Tay, the latter over the main river, both on the military road leading from Cappoquin by Dungarvan to Waterford; also Stradbally and Ballyvoile bridges, the former over the Tay, the latter over the Dalligan, both on the coast road leading from Dungarvan through the village of Stradbally to Waterford.

In Ballylaheen parish are three bridges, that of Bonmahon over the river Mahon on the coast road; Ballylaheen, on the middle; and Kilmacthomas, on the military road, about twelve miles west of Waterford, being all nearly at the same distance, about eight miles east of Dungarvan.

To the left on the middle road is Seafield, the seat of Joseph Anthony, Esq. To the right on the coast road, about six miles north east of Dungarvan, is Woodhouse, the seat of Robert Uniacke, Esq. To the left, about two miles west of Kil- ^{Gentlemen's Seats}

maethomas, on the military road, is Sarahville, the seat of James Barron, Esq. and about a mile from the village of Stradbally, on the road to the right, is Carrickbarrahon, the seat of Pierce Barron, Esq. In Clonea parish, about two miles and an half east of Dungarvan, is Clonea castle, the residence of Walter M'Guire, Esq.

Roads.

There are no public buildings of any description in this union. Three main roads pass through these parishes to Waterford from Cappoquin by Dungarvan in an easterly direction, the military, middle, and coast roads; these are intersected by several smaller roads which connect different parts of the parishes with the main roads, particularly the Bonmahon road, in the parish of Ballylaheen and the Carrickbarrahon and Ballyvoila roads, in the parish of Stradbally, with one leading from Clonea strand to the military road.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

Ruins.

The ruins of a monastery stand adjoining the parish church: several Danish forts of the common kind, are situated up and down in the different parishes. No towers, monuments, or inscriptions worth mentioning, are to be seen here.

V. *Present & Former State of Population, Food, &c.*

Population

The number of inhabitants in the parish of Stradbally, amounts to 1800; in Ballylaheen, to 1500; and in Clonea, to 400, at the most probable calculation. The males and females in the three parishes, are nearly equal, according to the account of persons best circumstanced to give information on the sub-

ject. The males are universally employed in agriculture; the females have no domestic employment, except spinning worsted; but they frequently join in the works of the field. The situation even of the lowest class of inhabitants, is above actual want. The general food is potatoes and milk, with fish when taken along the coast in any degree of plenty; though most of the farmers being very comfortable, could afford to allow themselves much better. They are in general healthy; their appearance, dress, and mode of living, the same as in most other places. There are no extraordinary instances of longevity. The most prevalent diseases are fevers, pleurisies and agues. The fuel in universal use is turf, which from the great quantity of turbary, is had on very moderate terms.

Employment.

Food.

Health.

Diseases.

Fuel.

VI. *The Genius & Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.*

There is nothing remarkable in the genius and disposition of the lower classes; it is however but just to observe, that they are uncommonly honest and industrious. They have no particular customs; the language mostly used is the Irish.

Language.

VII. *Education and Employment of Children, &c.*

The children of the lower classes are taught reading, writing and arithmetic; and when of age to work, are employed in agriculture. Stradbally parish has three schools, one is kept by the curate who teaches English, Greek and Latin, at £30 per annum for boarders, and four guineas for day boys; the other two are for the common description of chil-

Education.

Schools.

Endowed
School.

dren, who are taught reading, writing and arithmetic, at two and three shillings per quarter. One of these schools is endowed with a salary of thirty pounds per annum, by Pierse Barron, Esq. late of Faha, in this parish. Upwards of one hundred and fifty children, are instructed in these schools. Three schools are also kept in Ballylaheen, where about one hundred and fifty children are instructed in reading, writing and arithmetic, at from two, to three shillings per quarter. There is no public library in these parishes; nor are there historical documents of any description.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

Advowson.

The union of Stradbally consists of the union of the three parishes; Stradbally, Ballylaheen, and Clonea, episcopally united. The right of presentation belongs to the Duke of Devonshire. There is but one church in the union, which is situate in the village of Stradbally. There are two Roman Catholic chapels in this parish, and one in that of Ballylaheen. These are the only places of divine worship in the union.

Tythe.

Two thirds of the tythes in the parish of Stradbally and Clonea, are rectorial and impropriate, and are the property of the Duke of Devonshire. Two thirds of the tythes in the parish of Ballylaheen, are also rectorial and impropriate, and belong to Col. Joseph Hardy, with the exception of the potatoe and hay tythes, which, with the remaining portions in the different parishes, are the property of the vicar. The different crops tytheable are wheat, potatoes, barley,

oats, hay, rape and flax, and are mostly let from one to five years, according to the wishes of the farmers, and are in general well paid.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

The old mode of agriculture is still in use, with little or no improvement; dairy cows are the chief stock. The highest acreable rent is £3; the middling £2; and the lowest from 15s. to 20s. The great fall in the prices of corn, must considerably reduce these prices. Two fairs are annually held in the village of Stradbally, one on the 1st of June, and the other on the 14th of September; but there are no markets.

X. *Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.*

None.

XI. *Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.*

List of Incumbents, as extracted from the First Fruits' Records:—

Thomas Wilkinson, admiss. fuit, 22^c Martii. 1634, ad vicar. de Aglis Negall, & vic. de Stradbally, in co. Waterford.

Richus Geadinch, admiss. 20 April, 1639, ad vic. de Stradbally, in co. Waterford.

Francisc. Barnard, cler. admiss. institut. & induct. fuit, 3^o. die Dec. 1662, ad & in vicar. de Stradbally, infra nostra dioc. Lismore, & co. Waterford. £9. 2s. 2d.

Johan. Rugg, admiss. & institut. fuit, 21 die mensis Martii, 1672, ad. & in vic. de Stradbally, in co. Waterford. £10. st.

Pierc. Rugg, cler. in A. M. institut & admiss. fuit, 20^o. die Martii, 1706, ad vic. Mothell, & Stradbally, dioc. Lismore, com. pd. £10. st.

Laurence Broderick, collated 13 June, 1774, V. Mothell, Rathgormick, Stradbally, Ballylaheen. Fewes, Colligan, Clonea, n. t.

Henry Connor, collated 21 Sept. 1786, Vs. Mothell, Fewes, Stradbally, Rathgormack, Ballylaheen, Clonea, Colligan, n. t.

Robert Watts, A. M. collated 7 Jan. 1789, Vs. Mothell, Fewes, Stradbally, Rathgormock, Ballylaheen, Clonea, Colligan, n. t.

Edward Groom, A. M. collated 25 Nov. 1791, Vs. Stradbally, Ballylaheen, Clonea, n. t.

John Devereux, instit. 20 Nov. 1798, Vs. Stradbally, Ballylaheen, Clonea, n. t.

XII. *Suggestions for Improvement, and means for meliorating the condition of the People.*

None.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

TOWNLANDS IN STRADBALLY.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Derivation.</i>
Stradbally	Street town.
Newtown	Meaning obvious.
Carriganahaha	Rockford.
Garranascalogne..	Farmer's grove.
Grangeehee	Village of the wind, or windy harbour.
Williamstown	Meaning obvious.
Garronturtin.....	Garden of a cake.
Monakirka.....	Hen's hog.
Brenar	Fallow ground.
Drumlahan.....	Broad ridge.
Carrikbarrahan ..	Judge's rock.
Curryheen	Little hog.
Upper and Lower } Kilminin..... }	Upper and lower handsome little wood.
Ballyvoony	Mower or reaper's town.
Knockrour.....	Gross or large hill.
Monavand	Long hog.
Woodhouse	Meaning obvious.
Shanacool	Old retreat.
New and Old Island	Meaning obvious.
Stradballybeg	Little street town.
Leskin.....	Gleaned ground.
Knockadrumaha ..	Hill of Ridgeford.
Park	Meaning obvious.
Taha	Meaning not ascertained.
Durrow	Desert, cell or place of retreat.
Ballylynch.....	Lynch's town.
Garrzaleash	Meaning not ascertained.
Garreormiller	Meaning not ascertained.
Carrigahilla	Weeping rock, or rock of dropping.
Miller's Town	Meaning obvious.
Carrigarea.....	Salmon rock, or bee rock.
Ballinalloona.....	Town of heroes.

No. 2.

TOWNLANDS IN BALLYLAHEEN.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Derivation.</i>
Ballylaheen	Radiant or Bright town.
Ballyduane.....	Duanstown.
Ballyogarty	Fogarty's town.
Carrickcastle.....	Meaning obvious.
Lissard	High castle or dwelling.
Seafield	Meaning obvious.
Templearrick	Perhaps Templecarrick, Rock church,
Coottebrid	Perhaps Cooltebrid, back of Bridget's house.
Ahanaclough	Stoneford.
Ballybanogue	Coif or kerchertown.
Ballingarron	Garronstown.
Ballinaclash	Furrow or Dichtown.
Tahafeela	Meaning not ascertained.
Gragshaneen	Little John's manor or village.
Ballinaheela	Town of dropping or distillation.
Lisnagira	Castle or fort of the short heath.
Upper and Lower Curabea	} Upper and lower beech marsh.
Ballynorid	
	Town of prayer.

TOWNLAND OF CLONEA.

Clonea	Hugh's retreat.
Knockihenlason....	Meaning not ascertained.
Beaulavaraga... ..	Fold or cow-house of the market.
Kilgravan	Meaning not ascertained.
Killinin	Perhaps Kill Fhinin, Finin's church.
Glen.....	A valley.
Ballinrandle	Randlestown.

No. XX.

UNION OF

S Y D D A N, &c.

(Diocese and County of Meath.)

BY THE REV. BRABAZON DISNEY, VICAR.

I. Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.

THERE is scarcely any variation between the Name. ancient and modern names of these parishes. Mitchelstown is also called Stokestown, from a family of the name of Stokes, who were once proprietors of this part of the union. The parishes of Stahalmack Situation. and Crusetown are situated in the barony of Kells; those of Syddan, Killary, and Mitchelstown, are in the barony of lower Slane. The whole is bounded Boundaries on the east and west by Ardee and Kells; on the north and south by Carrickmacross and Slane.

The length of the whole is about six miles, and Extent, the breadth about four. The vicarages of Syddan and Killary contain about 4660 Irish acres; the three rectories contain about 1400. There is about one- Contents. half of the parish under the plough: no river of any note runs through the parishes, neither are there any mountains, bogs, or woods.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

Manures, Neither mines nor minerals have been discovered here. The chief natural manures are lime and marl, which is not found in any great quantity, but lies in some of the low grounds, not very deep below the surface.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

**Gentle-
men's
Seats.**

The principal gentlemen's seats in the union are in Syddan. 1. Parsonstown, the seat of Anthony Blackburne, Esq. 2. Mooretown, the seat of Phil. Pendleton, Esq. 3. Cruisetown House, that of Mrs. Ahmuty, but now uninhabited, as is Stahalmack House, the seat of the late Richard Fleming, Esq. The first lies on the high road from Slane to Carrickmacross, on the right hand, six miles from Slane and ten from Carrickmacross. Mooretown lies on the road from Collon to the village of Syddan, on the left hand, being five miles from the former, and two and a half from the latter.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

Nothing worthy of notice relative to the subjects of this section, is to be found here.

V. *Present and former state of Population, Food, &c.*

The farmers in general live comfortably and well, but are not anxious for the neatness of their dwellings. The lower class of labourers, &c. have in

general very poor houses, feel much distress from scarcity of fuel, and universally live on potatoes, Food. and bread of oatmeal. Most families, however, can boast of possessing a cow.

VI. *The Genius & Disposition of the Lower Classes, &c.*

The language used by the people in addressing Language. each other is Irish, but there are very few who do not speak English well.

VII. *The Education and Employment of Children, &c.*

The parish of Syddan has one Protestant school Schools, for males, and one for females, in which latter twelve poor children are educated, cloathed, dieted, and lodged, and as many as are unable to pay, are taught gratis, reading, plainwork, spinning, &c. This is supported by annual subscriptions, casual donations, and by the profits accruing from an annual charity ball in the town of Ardee. There are three schools held by Roman Catholic masters in the union, in which the children are taught to read, write, and cypher ; but these are not well attended, when they can get employment productive of any emolument. The parents being very poor, are Employment. obliged to keep their children at work in spring, laying the seed potatoes, and spreading manure ; in autumn, gleaning and gathering the potatoes after the diggers, so that they have little more than four months in the year, in which they can attend schools. The stipend received by the school-master Rates of Tutition. is very low : 2s. 2d. per quarter for reading, and 5s. 5d. per quarter for writing and cyphering.

Endowed
School.

The Protestant male school was built by Phil. Pendleton, Esq. ; is endowed with two acres of land, by the late Robert Waller, Esq. of Allenstown, and the master receives £15 per annum, from the association for discountenancing vice. The Roman Catholic schools are held in the chapels. The rising generation appear more civilized in their manners, from the increase of the number of schools, particularly such of the females as attend the school of Syddan. It is to be lamented, that the causes above assigned, viz.—the poverty of the parents, and consequent employment of the children for near eight months in the year, prevent them from receiving essential benefit from these institutions.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

Union.

This union consists of five small parishes, two of which, Stahalmack and Cruisetown, are united by act of counsel, and in the gift of the Crown ; the other three, Syddan, Killary, and Mitchelstown, are

Advowson.

likewise so united, and to them the Bishop of Meath has a right to present every incumbent. The whole is of course episcopally united this turn, and has been so for many years back.

Church.

Chapels.

Glebe.

There is one very neat church in the union of Syddan, and five Romish chapels. The whole union contains in detached parts, 59 acres of glebe. The parish of Syddan, on which a good glebe house has been built by the present incumbent, contains 20 acres of glebe. The rectorial tythes consist of those of corn, flax, wool, lambs, and hay ; the vicar receives the tythes of the three last articles. The

Tythes.

tythe is always compounded for with the farmer and never drawn in this union.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

The highest acreable rent, Irish plantation measure of land, that has been taken within the last three years, is four pounds; the lowest £2 5s. 6d. The value of farming stock rates very generally according to the Smithfield prices; the prices of provisions always according to the Drogheda markets.

X. *Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.*

There is no trade or manufacture carried on in this union, excepting the spinning of course yarn, which has lately much increased. There are weavers of course linen cloth, who send their manufacture to the Drogheda market.

XI. *Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.*

Nothing of this description is to be found in this union.

List of Incumbents, as extracted from the First Incumbents' Records—

1615. Vicaria de Syddan, ecclia. repatur. cancella ruinatur: rectoria impropriat. Roger. Downton de Dublin. ar. fir. regius Myr. fleminge de Syddan; patronus diet. Vicariæ: valet p. ann. 7l. Myr. Robtus Burton pdict. vicar. Gulielm. Metcalfe pdict. Myr. Gulielmus Metcalf pdict. Cur.

Incumbents.

Johes Stone cler. institut. fuit. 23^o die Maii 1685, ad rectoria. de Stoakestown £6 17s. 3d. als. Mitchelstowne and Syddan dio. & com. Mid.

John Bowden v. Killary, Syddan, R. Stokestown, other. Mitchaelstown, R. Stahalmock, and same R. Cruisetowne, 11th May, 1769, Meath.

Marmaduke Cramer institut. 27 March 1776. R. Cruisetowne, R. Stahalmuck, R. Syddan, V. same, V. Killaderry als. Killary, R. Stokestowne als. Mitchelstown.

Brabazon Disney, institut. 17 Dec. 1788. R. Cruise-town, Stahalmuck, Vs. Killary, Syddan, R. Stokes-town als. Mitchelstown.

XII. *Suggestions for Improvement, and Means for meliorating the Condition of the Poor.*

None.

APPENDIX.

TOWNLANDS OF SYDDAN, &c.

<i>Names of Townlands.</i>	<i>Probable Derivation and English Name.</i>	<i>Chief Proprietors.</i>	<i>No. of Acres.</i>	<i>No. of Houses.</i>	<i>Aggregate Population.</i>
TOWNLANDS OF SYDDAN PARISH.					
Syddan,	The little entrenchment, or intrenchment.	A. Blackbourne, Esq.	280	19	57
Woodtown,	Meaning obvious.	Ditto.	329	17	86
Bengerstown,	John's fort.	Messrs. Deey and Donnellan.	165	16	71
Syddan Hill,	Meaning obvious.	J. Gore, Esq.	42	3	15
John's Rath,	Meaning obvious.	J. Doynes, Esq.	113	7	33
Green Hills,	Meaning obvious.	Ditto.	126	4	27
Batestown,	A place of trees, and New fort.	William Filgate, Esq.	100	9	45
Bigstown,	Dry sod.	Pat. Colman, Esq.	182	11	61
Creevagh and Newrath,	Not ascertained.	Ditto.	314	12	63
Keeran,	Meaning obvious.	James Norris, Esq.	60	8	43
Corballis,	Meaning obvious.	Ph. Pendleton, Esq.	306	10	50
Mooretown,	Yellow house, or habitation.	Ditto.	77	2	16
Mill Hill,	Meaning obvious.	Ob. Milling, Esq.	50	3	17
Lisboy,	Meaning obvious.	A. Blackbourne, Esq.	170	2	16
Footstown,					
TOWNLANDS OF MITCHELSTOWN PARISH.					
Mitchelstown,	Meaning obvious.	A. Blackbourne, Esq.	178	9	65
Clontil,	Retirement or retreat on the water or flood.	J. Gore, Esq.	225	23	132
Ricetown,	Meaning obvious.	A. Blackbourne, Esq.	151	9	49

TOWNLANDS OF SYDDAN, &c.

Names of Townlands.	Probable Derivation and English Name.	Chief Proprietors.	No. of Acres.	No. of Houses.	Aggregate Population.
TOWNLANDS OF KILLARY PARISH.					
Killary, Lobinstown, Parsonstown, Heronstown, Rathbran Temple, Rathbran Moore, Braystown, Devonstown,	Meaning not ascertained.	Messrs. Dacy and Dounellan.	400	30	173
	Meaning obvious.	Ditto.	107	42	182
	Church of Black fort.	A. Blackburne, Esq.	100	15	97
	Great Black fort.	W. H. Ogle, Esq.	325	50	244
	Meaning obvious.	J. Godley, Esq. R. Mayne, Esq. J. Tiedal, Esq. Cl. Smyth, Esq.	423 836 173 240	37 80 21 21	70 434 102 96
TOWNLANDS OF CRUISETOWN PARISH.					
Moydora, Cruisetown, Newtown,	Field of Strife.	Peter Cruise, Esq.	269	21	135
	Meaning obvious.	Mrs. Ahmity. Fran. Cruise, Esq.	354 143	20 3	120 16
TOWNLANDS OF STAHALMACK PARISH.					
Coolahiss, Stahalmack, Nulty's Farm, Castletown Moor, Drake Rath,	Retired habitation.	Phil. Pendleton, Esq.	100	3	16
	Not ascertained.	— Fleming, Esq.	126	20	98
	Meaning obvious.	Thos. Bligh, Esq.	82	8	35
	Great Castle town. Drake's fort.	W. Norton, Esq. Christ. Drake, Esq.	223 500	40 19	238 103

No. XXI.

UNION OF

T A C U M S H A N E,

(*Diocese of Ferns, and County of Wexford.*)

BY THE REV. WILLIAM EASTWOOD, RECTOR.

I. *Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

THE union of Tacumshane, usually called Kils-
coran, which confers on the incumbent the clerical
dignity of chancellor of Ferns, or which is annexed
to it, is situated in the barony of Forth and county
of Wexford, and is distant from six to ten miles south
east, from the market and county town of Wexford.
It contains, beside the parish of Tacumshane, the
rectories of Kilsoran, Ballymore, Rosslare and
Killilane; together with the vicarages of Kilrane and
St. Margaret's, consolidated by act of council.

Situation.

Contents.

It is not easy to describe the length or breadth of
these united parishes, on account of the numerous
indentures occasioned by the sea on one side, and
the irregularity of the different parishes of Wexford
and Killinick, that awkwardly intrude themselves on
the other. It may however be safely stated to be
about seven miles long, and four wide. It is bor-

Extent.

dered by the sea, for the space of twenty miles and upwards, as may be seen by the county map. This boundary commences at the point of Woodtown in Rosslare, within the harbour of Wexford, proceeds northwards to the fort and Martello tower to Greenore eastward, and thence in a south western course by the church of St. Helen's, under the rock of Tuskar to the extremity of the barony, without any other interruption than that which arises from the promontory formed by the small parish of Carne, which intervenes. The strand in many parts, and for miles together, being firm and hard, is resorted to in all weathers for exercise and health, and for bathing in the summer months.

Contents.

The complement of acres contained in these seven parishes together, as returned in the vestry book, is 7180. By this the church and county cesses are collected; the return however, is not correct. There is sufficient ground to state, that there are upwards of 9000, or about 15 square miles of profitable lands paying rent in this union, exclusive of the extensive sandbank which forms a skirting to the entire coast.

Marl Pits.

There is not a river in this country; streamlets there are, which become dry in summer. In this extremity, cattle are driven for water to marl pits, with which it abounds, that are never exhausted. Into these many sporting gentlemen are unexpectedly precipitated; and whether they will or not, must submit to a dip into a cold bath, to the no small amusement of their comrades in the field. We have no bog, moor, wood or thicket here.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

There is no remarkable quarry of any kind in the whole union, nor a mineral spring of any description. A source of riches, arising from the contiguity to the sea, is the vast extent of warren, which supplies immense stores of rabbits every year. From the burrow of Rosslare alone, we can state with authority, that the persons engaged, take for sale, three hundred pair a week, for three months together, which produce two shillings for flesh and skin per pair, at the least calculation; these are considered as mild and delicate above any others on this coast. We cannot sufficiently admire the Creator in his wondrous works! here are animals created, fit inhabitants of these dreary banks, producing food and raiment for thousands of mortals, although their sandy habitations would appear to a superficial observer, as a barren waste.

Rabbit
Burrows.

It may be deemed superfluous to mention the produce from the sale of pigeons; yet it is not to be overlooked. It is well known that they flourish most in a corn country, particularly if it should be, as this is, girded by the sea. They pick up the small living insects, and salt weeds that are found on the rocks, on which they feed eagerly, and return homewards in the evening to the nurture and care of their young. A person having an unroofed castle told the writer, that pigeons had taken possession of it, and they turned out most profitable tenants; for that he drew from 20 to 25 pair every week, for eight months in the year, which he sold

Pigeons.

for eight pence a pair on an average. If then an unroofed tenement would bring in a sum of twenty guineas a year, what may be the product of twelve regular pigeon houses, which are placed in this district, besides above twenty others which have no louvre, yet are nevertheless much frequented, and very productive.

Wild Fowl. Besides the advantages already described from its local situation, this country has the peculiar benefit of possessing a certain grass or sea-weed, which maintains myriads of wild fowl, and gives them a taste and flavour superior to those of any other place or country. The most abundant crop of this grass is found inside the harbour, from the island of Woodtown, to within two miles of the town, and to the extremity of the bay eastward. There are two loughs at some distance, where it also grows, though not so profusely, and to these outposts the birds take their flight, when the tide rises in the bay above the weed, and make a pass through the air, as regular as if it were meted out, from which they never deviate. Under these lines, fowlers take their stand, often with great success, particularly in dark and blowing weather. The number brought to market is not easily ascertained; it is however reasonable to state it at two hundred couple a week, for six months in every year. The average prices may be thus—barnacle, six shillings; whinnard three; widgeon, two and sixpence; teal, twenty pence; and duck, (least liked), two shillings a pair. Besides these, there is a great supply of sea fowl of an inferior quality, which are bought up, and considered very good: this sale produces about one hundred and

eighty pounds a month, or above a thousand pounds a year. They are purchased by carriers, who convey them through the country, and into the adjacent counties, and make a good livelihood by retail. Some are dispatched in the mail and day coaches to Dublin, where they are esteemed ; and, as it is said, many baskets are sent across the channel. A gentleman residing in Wexford, on an opportunity occurring, sent off a basket of these delicious fowl to His Royal Highness the Duke of York at London. They are only winter friends, for on the approach of summer, they take their departure, and steer for the Orkneys.

To the Wexford oyster so celebrated by travel- Oysters.
lers, we should do injustice if we passed it by in silence. The principal bed which is dredged for this fish is directly opposite to the rector's house : the scene is very interesting, on account of the number of boats employed, the dexterity of the men, and the various changes in the color according as the rays of the Sun bear upon them. These oysters are to most tastes superior to any others in this or the sister country, in as much as they are more salt and savoury ; they answer best for pickling on this account, and continue for weeks in that state unimpaired. In that truly plentiful and most hospitable town of Wexford, this fish is prepared for table in many ways and relished in all. Strangers manifest great surprise at beholding oyster sauce for white fowl, but it can be declared with truth, that they were never seen to refuse or reject it. About twenty boats are employed on this service, which take on an average about forty hundred of oysters

each, every day they can go out of the harbour ; and these are now selling for sixteen pence the hundred. This continues for eight or nine months in the year, causes a great circulation of money, and continually serves the purpose of training up seamen for the imperial navy and merchant vessels.

Lobsters.

This coast is remarkable for the quantity and quality of its lobsters, the sale of which produces a good sum yearly to those employed, and causes a great supply of common round fish. As the lobster pots must be provided with bait, fishing with lines or seines becomes necessary ; and what is not used in the decoy, is sold on the quay. Wexford is supplied most abundantly with the choicest fish, and though almost the whole is taken in the sea opposite the houses, the gentlemen are obliged to send to that market for what they consume : if peradventure any are brought by neighbours to our doors, we must pay half as much more as the same could be got for in the market, and lie under a compliment besides. The same may with truth be said of every kind of fowl, with which this rich country abounds ; they are much dearer at home.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

**Gentlemen's
Seats.**

There is no public institution of any kind through this entire barony. The gentlemen constantly residing are Mr. Nunn, of St. Margarets ; Mr Nunn, of Hilecastle ; Mr. Edwards, of Ballyhire, and Captain Benjamin Lefroy, of Hiltown. Mr. Redmond, of Ballybrent, and Mr. Howlin, of Bally-

cronigan, spend some months in their country houses here every summer.

At the extremity of the isthmus or narrow ridge of land that separates the sea from the harbour, stands what is called the Fort. This is a square building, erected by Government, consisting of eleven dwelling houses: one for the Surveyor, the rest for boatmen and their families. Their business is to examine all vessels passing in and out, and to prevent smuggling. Near to this has been built within a few years, a Martello Tower, with a view of affording additional protection to trade; besides these, there are two houses built outside the square, for the men who attend the pilot boat, at their own charge.

A few acres of land have lately been taken by the commissioners of the Ballast Office, on which some houses are now built, and others projected at the new light-house, with which there is a constant intercourse preserved by means of a life-boat employed by the company. These men on shore take their rotation on the rock, and are relieved again by fresh hands.

The roads are admirably good, because the resident gentlemen look after them and have no jobs; there are besides, good materials and little thoroughfare: no preference is given for making or repairing roads except to the resident tenant, through whose land the road passes, either to open or repair. The only objection is the insecurity arising from

dykes being permitted to be on the side of the road, instead of being placed in the fields. The extreme wetness of the soil, and the flatness of the surface in general, are the causes assigned for withholding this improvement ; but this is not a sufficient, nor indeed any reason at all. The water will flow into the trench wheresoever it is made, but particularly if gullies or passages are formed in the banks ; if let into the fields, there will be safety to travellers. Two or three roads diverge towards Ross and Waterford through the adjoining barony ; all the others lead to the county town.

It may be observed, that in general all the roads were conducted from hill to hill, notwithstanding the morasses or rivers that intervened, which may be accounted for in this manner :—formerly this kingdom was covered with woods, and the only method of discovering the shortest approach to any desired town or place, was by ascending a rising ground, from whence the traveller, after taking his view, made towards the nearest in course, thence to the next, and so proceeded to the destined point. After some time it became necessary to open ways for the convenience of draft ; and the foot-beaten path was preferred as being best known. From this circumstance it may be that our Irish roads were so injudiciously constructed, to the great delay and annoyance of passengers, and the pitiable distress of the brute creation. Necessity might have suggested, and even compelled the adoption of this measure ; but, in the present state of Ireland, no such difficulty can be pleaded as an excuse for continuing that ancient practice. A long straight road in view,

exhausts the patience of the traveller before he is weary, he comes into the inn out of humour, and his discontent not unfrequently vents itself in unfavourable, perhaps unjust reports of the country. To obviate these disasters, the highway should be laid out in valleys where it is possible; along a river, a lough, or a branch of the sea, which may be, in fact, the shortest, though apparently the longest, because a circuitous route. But admitting that some difference in length did exist, it would be but trifling; the ease to the noble animal in draft would be greatly promoted, and the traveller, delighted with the scenery, would arrive at his stage in harmony with himself and all mankind.

There is no bold feature in the entire barony, *Plantation:* which could solicit the attention of painter or poet; neither does it possess any of those artificial improvements, with which inland parts are embellished. Some few gentlemen have planted with but little effect. At Hill-castle alone, there is a partial screen of forest trees, arrived to their usual height. Its contiguity to the sea is considered as a sufficient cause for the failure of trees; there may be some justice in this remark, but as the shore abounds with turf and timber, which are dug out between the ebb and flow of tides, it is evident that this cannot be altogether the cause; they once grew here, and might be expected to flourish again, if there were not some other cause for prevention, which seems to be the denuded state of the land, that formerly was a forest from shore to shore. Besides the want of shelter occasioned by clearing away woods, there may exist in the marl, which is general here, a qua-

lity obnoxious to the young roots of the fir tribe, that we know to be fond of loose and stony soils, and are the species of trees at the present day mostly planted. Such as possess roots that shoot horizontally in search of nourishment, may thrive any where ; but they that project theirs downwards, have no chance whatever of forcing a passage through the cohesive particles of this stratum.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

Danish
Bath.

There is one Danish Bath of considerable size and elevation on Bishop's ground, adjoining the Ballytrant estate, in the parish of Kilrane, and another, although very small, in the same townland, not many paces asunder, and without any subterraneous passage connecting them ; both are in commanding situations on the eastern coast, and within musket shot of the channel that separates us from our sister country.

Castles.

The number of castles that have been erected on the coast, in the connected baronies of Forth and Bargy, is a sufficient ground for presuming that they were as much distinguished for their fertile possessions formerly, as at the present time. These castles are all on the same plan precisely, although they differ somewhat in height and area. In a few instances there were four, that had been so placed as to form a square, each at an angle, with high walls between, leaving a hollow within for cattle or conveniencies of any kind ; but, for the most part they are solitary and insulated buildings, with fosses around. Whatever may be imagined with re-

gard to the era in which they were built, there is ^{Castles.} no clue by document or inscription that can lead to the truth. Some suppose they were erected after the invasion or conquest of Henry the 2d, in order to place in security the people to whom he parcelled out the land ; others, that they owe their origin to the Danes, above 300 years before. This seems most likely ; and there is a better foundation for it, than for the former conjecture. It is well known, that all the buildings of the Danes throughout Ireland, are more durable than any others, on account of the cement, or rather the manner of preparing the cement, they used ; it is harder even than the stones, and more labour is required to break a heap of their mortar than one of those. Instead of slacking the lime with water, by which much of its strength evaporates, they ground it in a quern mill, and in that state mixed it with gravel. They were not sparing of this ingredient, for besides bedding the stones deep in it, they grouted profusely every line. The writer examined many of them, and found the cohesion equal in all. He also visited the ruins of the castle of King John, near Ferrycarrig in this county, in which the mortar did not possess that firmness. This castle must have been erected, if his conjecture be well founded, some hundreds of years after those on the coast ; it has been level with the ground time out of mind : it is however reasonable to suppose, that a castle prepared for the habitation of a King, would be composed of as lasting materials, as any intended for subjects. Be this as it may, these castles afforded Henry's adherents protection and security against the dispossessed Irish : they so remained until the days of

Oliver Cromwell, when they again received new masters. Whatever resistance had been made by the followers of the King against the natives, there was no resisting the Protector's artillery: a sort of opposition was attempted, enough to give colour to this crafty usurper's design; he conquered the country, took possession of it, and bestowed the whole in debentures on his army: the Celtic race was suffered to remain as vassals. Some of these castles have been converted into dwelling houses, with modern roofs and windows; whilst others are permitted to retain their original shape and grandeur: with very few exceptions, they are in the possession of the descendants of Cromwell's adherents to this day, together with their estates, and are highly prized, as conferring consequence on the proprietors, who add the word "castle," as a finale to the ancient name of their abodes, as Hill castle, Bargo castle, Killiane castle, Johnstown castle, &c. &c.

V. Present & Former State of Population, Food, &c.

Population The inhabitants of what is called the Fort, including the gunners, make together 14 families; and their total number amounts to 80, of which 46 are children or adults, requiring the aid of a schoolmaster. These, together with the other inhabitants of the union, make the population 2786. By the statement in the appendix it may be seen, that if the land were equally distributed, every family would possess about fifteen, and each individual nearly two acres and three roods for support.

Yeomanry There is perhaps in no country, a more respectable yeomanry than this parish can present. It is

the admiration of every gentleman whom chance or business brings into it. The houses are made of Houses. mud, which becomes as hard and dry as brick; they are covered with thatch in a peculiarly neat manner, and the ridge is plastered with lime mortar, that is at once an ornament and use. Their offices are equally commodious; and as a visitor once observed, the farmers have houses for every purpose, and as white as lime can make them. In every cabin you may see a brick chimney, glass windows, and to most of their little courts, iron gates well painted. If you enter, the hospitable board is immediately exhibited; and if it be not covered with an elegant collation, you are sure to meet with a clean and comfortable luncheon, sweetened by the most inviting consideration, a hearty welcome.

While the compiler mentions the home-made Dress. dresses of the people, he does not intend to insinuate that they had or wore no other. At their work in the farms, they are plainly but decently clad: on Sundays and holidays, their dress is of a superior quality. The only difference between the farmers' daughters and the ladies in this respect, consists in the quality and value of the articles; the make or fashion is the same in both. It is pleasant to observe, that a pride for decency is making considerable advances in this country, which is much wanted in many parts of Ireland, where the females are shamefully neglectful of their appearance, and make themselves objects of disgust. You never meet any person barefooted in this district, nor bare-headed; all the females wear hats or bonnets, mostly

of their own work, and of straw, the product of the soil. However many admire taste and improvement in the females as to their dress, perhaps the expenses are carried too far, and draw on the same censorious remarks. They are admitted to be very handsome, amiable and correct; and as they are most industriously employed on working days, they feel themselves entitled to gratify their fancy for becoming clothes, in which alone they are extravagant.

Food.

The food used here, surpasses what is the general diet of the same class in any other country part. Flesh meat is served up twice a week at least, at all the farmers' tables, of which the cottiers and labourers partake; and fish or butter with potatoes, on other days. Oatmeal is rarely used; barley bread, baked so hard that a hatchet is almost necessary to cut it through, is eaten for breakfast, and potatoes with milk closes the culinary work of the day. Beans are not now any part of their diet; the females reject them, not as disciples of Pythagoras, but to escape a mark, which they are said to impress on their person.

Fuel.

Fuel is scarce, and to the tradesmen and cottiers of difficult attainment. Coal may be purchased, and is in general use among the wealthy farmers. Bean haulms and furze, are highly prized for boiling potatoes, and the ashes for softening linen. Though the absence of an abundant supply of firing must be considered a deplorable privation, in this district it is not rigorous. Instead of lounging over a hearth, the people exercise themselves by day in the fields, and in the night, if not fishing, are mending their nets.

Although the inhabitants possess health, and live Health. to a good age, the writer has not discovered any instance of longevity worth recording.

VI. *The Genius & Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.*

It may be expected that the inhabitants of a coun- Genius and Disposition try so peculiarly favoured, are contented and happy; and indeed they are so to a great degree, for they are so pleased with being in their own barony, as to be unwilling to leave home almost on any occasion, and to consider every person unfortunate, who has not his residence among them. Very many of these families, it is said, never have exceeded the boundaries of Forth; in one instance there is foundation for this report: an elderly woman, wife to a respectable farmer, came to the rector on business, and while she was eating her breakfast, she satisfied his enquiries: "she had never been at any market town but Wexford, had never been out of Forth: she had been prevailed on one unlucky day, to go to the summit of the mountain (about 50 yards above the level), there she was astonished and overcome at seeing the wide world that opened to her view; her head grew giddy, her stomach turned sick, and she returned homewards, fully determined never again to expose her life and senses to such hazards."

The people are altogether very different from Language. those whom we see in any other part of Ireland, in language, customs and dress. They at this day speak the language in which the first English poet,

Language. Chaucer wrote, in the middle of the 14th century, which the writer is warranted to state from the following circumstance. He was in a field on his farm reading Ogle's edition of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, and near to labourers who were conversing in this to him unknown tongue. It chanced that he threw his eyes towards some words, that he fancied might resemble those they were repeating, if sounded; he arrested their attention, whilst he read the lines. He cannot however describe the surprize, pride and pleasure, which these creatures manifested in being able to understand what was in a "book." They were fully competent to interpret, explain, and even to translate every line and passage; and that more to his satisfaction, than did Dryden or Johnson.

This language was imported by their ancestors, and whether they were settlers in the fourth or fifth century, as asserted by our Irish antiquarian Dr. Ledwich, or came over in the army with Strongbow in the twelfth century, as is the opinion entertained by their descendants; it is still a matter of some surprise, that they have preserved any vestige of a tongue for even the shortest of these periods, six hundred years. It may be accounted for partly in this manner:—They were a colony planted in this retirement, in the room of the inhabitants who were displaced, were compelled to seclusion, dared not to mix with the late and jealous occupiers, and, of course, could have no knowledge of the customs, manners, or language of the country. They intermarried with their own tribe, and dressed in their own manufacture, which, until of late years, was

confined to two colors, brown and yellow, but uni- Language.
formly of only one shape or fashion. By means of
encrease in population, those colonists were obliged
to migrate and break fresh ground, but carried with
them their native tongue and habits; still, however,
keeping within the barony, and as near as possible
to the seat of their ancestors. The Irish language
is not spoken, nor even understood by any of
them.

It may be inferred, that people so retired from
commerce with the world as these are by situation
and habits, are free from those vices that prevail
amongst their order elsewhere. They are indus-
trious, quiet, and sober, beyond perhaps any of their
fellows in other parts. This has been their dis-
tinguishing character, and though there may be some
changes, yet they are still more circumspect than
most others. Lord Annaly, who was Chief Justice
of the Common Pleas many years ago, was on the
circuit, and being invited by Colonel Nunn to dine
at St. Margaret's, drove through this parish, which
his lordship admired and praised highly, more parti-
cularly the good order and peaceable demeanour of
the peasantry, which he stated to be superior to
any thing he had witnessed through other countries,
and complimenting the Colonel on this occasion,
asked if he could account for it, and assign any
cause? he unhesitatingly replied, "it is because we
have no lord or lawyer living amongst us."

Notwithstanding that these people think and speak
in this Celtic language (if it may be so denominated,)
they understand our modern English, and trans-

Language: late their sentiments so as to be perfectly intelligible, and with more precision than those whose vernacular tongue is Irish. They have, however, some particularities, which a stranger will not fail to remark. Instead of saying, "I forgot, they express themselves, "it was forget it I did." If they wish you to lend them any thing, instead of saying "will you lend," their manner is, "will you borrow me such a thing?" Their address too is simple and belongs to themselves alone; on passing each other, they ask, "is it long since?" meaning do you consider the time that I have been absent from you as long and heavy! and the reply is couched in artless but kind courtesy, "yea joi."

The young men have lost the character towards their parents for civil and respectful deportment, which their parents obtained. The price of every article that a farmer had for sale, has been so high for twenty years past, that he has become uncommonly rich, and knows not how to bear prosperity. His head has become intoxicated, his faculties forsake him, and he forgets his origin and place in society. A few years, such as is the present, may tend to restore him to a right understanding; the price he could receive for his corn just now, would scarcely be sufficient to pay his taxes.

**Lady's
Island.**

The Lady's Island, formerly in high estimation by pilgrims, and frequented by thousands of the most respectable Roman Catholics from all parts, far and near, the poor attend still, on the 8th of September, though very few in number: they are growing too good, or less credulous than their progenitors. A poor woman came to ask the rector for some pecu-

niary assistance, in a tone which discovered that she was from a distant province; he enquired whence she came, and what her business was? she replied, that she “belonged to Waterford, and travelled to the island,”—surely, said he, at your advanced age, there could be little necessity for undergoing such fatigue! with a smile and a sigh she answered, “it is for the sins of my youth.”

A circumstance is related of a bird called the ^{Proud} “proud stork,” which some years ago used to fre- ^{Stork.}quent this lough, to build its nest, which it did in a curious manner. There is a weed or grass growing at the bottom of this water, which she took into her bill, twisting it from the depth; and when she had spun sufficient rope to raise her over the surface, she constructed her floating nest, laid two eggs, and brought out her young. The bird is of the bittern species. The sea has found a passage into this lake, and as the tide rises above the length of this subaqueous grass, the storks were compelled, however reluctantly, to abandon it altogether.

VII. *Education and Employment of Children, &c.*

There are seven public schools throughout the ^{Schools.} union, in which children are taught spelling, reading, writing, and cyphering; the rudiments at the moderate charge of from two to five shillings a quarter. The number of scholars varies with the season; for in this agricultural country, the children fit to drive a team of plough horses, are employed in the field; it is only when there is no occasion for these puerile services at home, that they are permitted to

attend school: for some months you may reckon upon forty scholars in each. Those that are intended for business or professions, are sent to some academy in Wexford, where all branches are taught extremely well, and on moderate terms. There is no endowment, nor allowance whatever, excepting what is given by the parish minister, yet the masters make a respectable appearance, and seem unwilling to remove. We have no public library or book room in the union, neither have we heard of any manuscripts whatever.

Education. Here it may be remarked without any intention in the writer to offend or dictate, that a system of education might be adopted in this kingdom generally, which would be, in his opinion, of more essential benefit, than what at present prevails, or even than that which is meditated. According to the plan set forth, the measure proposed is, to augment the salaries of diocesan school-masters, at the expense of the bishops and their clergy. He will ask is that system founded on a basis of justice, or, did it receive the sanction of parliament, would real national utility be the result? He says without a dread of contradiction, that it would not be either just or useful. Classical schools are to be found in every town of note in the kingdom, and they flourish most where either there is no endowment whatever, or a very limited one. A moderate establishment might be necessary, to induce young gentlemen of merit to engage in the instruction of youth, say about £100 a year: this may be sufficient to draw the attention of young men to this mode of life, by a beginning and support; more than that would be superfluous,

and might tend to frustrate the object, by rendering Education: the teachers careless, and the places sinecures. But supposing them to be attentive and sedulous, they are still of no greater service to the republic of letters, than are others who depend on their abilities and industry altogether. This is a well known fact; he is therefore warranted in drawing this conclusion, that there is no occasion for increasing the number, or of promoting by salary the consequence of such seminaries: the growing population will have the effect of producing the first; the talents and diligence of the master will be the most honorable means of his attaining the second. Allowing however, (and it is only an admission,) that these classical schools possess a just claim on the legislature for encouragement, and that they are of the utmost use in promoting incipient learning, they are so only to a certain class, and that, though certainly the most respectable, yet is a very small class indeed, when compared to the millions of young persons moving in lower spheres, who cannot aspire to such exalted erudition; to whom the knowledge of the dead languages would be of no benefit, and consequently the expense of attaining them, a waste of money and time.

The education of youth should be adapted to the rank and condition of the pupils, as well as to the business or employment for which they are destined by their parents or friends. Taking the subject in this point of view, I have no doubt that parochial schools would be the very best that could be thought of to promote general education and learning in Ireland. The children of farmers and of tradesmen residing in the country could attend without loss

Education. of time, or much cost ; whereas if a classical school were established, whatever might be the expense to the minister, his flock would derive no manner of benefit from it ; and if he sent his own children to it, he must pay as great a yearly salary as if he had not subscribed a shilling.

The board of education are endued with power to alter the endowments of the public schools : if they could throw into one depot all the funds of all the schools in Ireland, they would be able to calculate what number they could endow with the salary of £100 and allowing one in each county, there would be expended £3200 a year only, which is very trifling, compared with the product. It would be commendable that a school should be established in every country parish not already provided, and a salary not under £30 a year, allotted to each teacher, who should be better qualified than country school-masters generally are. If therefore the funds created for general purposes of this nature by the board of education, were not sufficient to extend this plan all over the kingdom, the parliament would possibly with great eagerness assist, and grant whatever sum would appear to be wanted. The benefits of such parochial schools, would exceed any calculation. To promote, or rather to ensure success, it is expedient that a seminary be prepared, in which young men may be sufficiently educated for holding the situation of masters. If sacred music in a moderate degree were taught, many persons might be prepared for parish clerks, who are much wanted.

As the children in the Fort live four miles from any habitable part, there is no chance of their being

brought up in the fear and love of their Maker, or Education. of attaining the least glimmering of literary information whatever, excepting from their parents, who are themselves not well instructed. Mr. Wallace, the present surveyor, sends a boat to town every Sunday, with such persons as chuse to attend divine worship, and takes pains to encourage their zeal: the distance from Kilscoran church being six miles of heavy sand for the most part. This gentleman, sometime ago, prepared a plan for building a school and dwelling house for a teacher, on some part of these premises, with an estimate; but government declined intermeddling: this is too much to be lamented, as without the interference of the crown, nothing of this kind can be done, the ground being its property, and the inhabitants its servants.

A branch of the Hibernian Bible Society has been established in this country, under the auspices of our excellent and highly esteemed bishop, which has been attended with deserved success. A repository for the sale of bibles and testaments, at reduced prices, has been lately appointed in Broadway, a post town, which is seven miles distant from Wexford, and central to the several parishes in this union, as well as to many others; besides, the inhabitants are gratuitously supplied with books of common prayer, treatises on the Lord's Supper, and manuals of devotion, all which are received with thanks, and perused with attention.

There are three Roman Catholic chapels in the union, and one Roman Catholic clergyman. The chapels have been built within twenty years, and

are in good repair. There is not any public place of worship belonging to any other sect. It does not appear that Methodists are increasing, notwithstanding all the pains taken for that purpose; as for any effect upon Roman Catholics, none can be made under existing circumstances.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

Advowson. The Bishop of Ferns has the presentation of this parish, and of the prebend of Kilrane, a sinecure, of which Mr. Goff, rector of Tallaght, in the diocese of Dublin, is the prebendary. The honourable and right reverend the present Bishop of Ferns, presented the present rector to this benefice, in December 1812, on his surrender of the rectory of Killan, which is situated in the western extremity of the same diocese.

Tythes. Lord Portsmouth possesses the great tythes of St. Margaret's; the small are annexed to the union of Tacumshane, and are at the disposal of the diocesan. Here it may be proper to observe, that the bishops throughout this kingdom should present to vicarages in all cases, whether the rectories are estates of laymen, or distinct benefices of clergymen. It is their duty to have clerical functions performed, and of course to apply the vicarial tythes for this purpose. In many instances lay impropiators have possessed themselves of all the tythes, and compounded with the clergyman for whatever trifle they chose to pay. Until of late, vicarial tythes were of little value, and difficult to be collected: the person therefore, who had the union, or perhaps but one rectory in it, was

contented to receive whatever was offered in lieu thereof. But although this composition did exist, and with mutual consent, there is no occasion for its continuance for ever, or, for what has been the consequence, the entire loss to the church of those its legal rights; nothing can however be lost to the church, except by means of neglect, either of the present or former possessors of livings.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

Providence has been extremely bountiful to the Manures. entire barony of Forth, and especially to some parts of this parish, by affording most fertile ground, with a variety of manures suited to the soil of every farm. These manures stimulate and requite the husbandman's industry. Scarcely is there a farm Marl. unsupplied with marl, which is discovered at any depth, by a certain weed that never fails to grow over its bed. This goes by the name of "marl weed" here; by some it is called "joint weed," from its parts separating in joints when pulled asunder, and lastly "fir weed," on account of its resemblance to the seedling of Scotch fir.

Of this manure there are three different species, varying in strength and colour, yet all equally applicable to the soil, and used in quantity according to the respective quality or strength of each. The usual number of carloads to an acre, is one thousand of the yellow, nine hundred of the white, and eight of the blue. It is for the most part drawn out on lea ground; but of late it has been laid on stubble, and answers very well. Lime may be had, but it is

very dear, and not adapted to wet soil, with which this country abounds. The limeburners are permitted to use whatever measure they think proper, and make their own terms with the consumer, which of course are not moderate.

**Sea-weed
Manure.**

Tag or sea-weed, is a species of manure to which farmers on the sea coast have access, and which has the peculiar quality of being applicable to every kind of soil, as often as it can be got, and with the greatest imaginable benefit. After a storm from the south or south-west, this weed is drifted down the channel in vast heaps, and is watched for by the people with the most anxious solicitude: you would imagine their very existence depended on their exertions; all the hands that can be collected, men women and children, press forward to the beach, and rush knee deep into the sea, and some up to the middle, with prongs and pitchforks in their hands, struggling to save and carry off on cars, what the tide has wafted in; this labour is renewed night and day, between the ebb and flow of tides, as long as a morsel of the weed remains on the beach: besides there is a quantity of sea sand and gravel used; these they mix with the weed, which forms a rich compost, and sometimes with mould, or, as very often is the case, they lay it out by itself on heavy grounds, with great success.

Crops.

Beans and barley till of late years, were the chief, it might be almost said the only crops which were cultivated in this district. There are three different modes of sowing beans practised: narrow drills, with four cuts of the plough in each; the furrow is

left wide, in order that the beans may have space and air, so that these are something above three feet asunder, from centre to centre: the second is a species of drill; the plough goes up and down six times; and the third method is broad cast, that is, the edge is completely formed by the plough first, the manure is then spread, the crop sown, and the furrows shovelled. This practice is most in use, on account of the heavy ground which is most general, and is not manageable otherwise. On all, the manure is first drawn, and the beans hand-sowed. Not less than four, but more frequently five bushels to the acre, is the complement used.

The manure which is preferred for this crop, is a Manure. compost of sea weed, and mould incorporated for some months; but where this prolific weed cannot be had, stable manure is substituted. The stench arising from this weed, is very overcoming to strangers; but to those who look to the crop, the smell is as sweet as is the bean blossom itself, with which the air is impregnated, and the country deliciously perfumed for weeks together.

Composts of sand, mould, and sea-weed, are provided for barley, (the staple of the parish) and is considered as the best possible manure for one crop, and this may be procured by the industrious farmer every year. Fifteen barrels of beans, and twenty of barley, are esteemed excellent returns; frequently they exceed, but they more frequently are under this quantity. Malsters used to pay a shilling per barrel for barley of this parish, above what was paid for any other: the husk or skin was thin, and

the meal or yield greater in proportion to the specific size of the grain. Wheat and oats are now as general here, as in any other part of the kingdom.

This barony was for many years considered as the granary of Ireland; and when it is told that there were in the district of Wexford alone, no less than five hundred malt-houses working at the same time, the remark will not be thought an unmerited compliment. Ale was then selling for three halfpence a quart, which was superior to what is now brewed, or can be purchased at any price; it was not only in strength and flavour superior to what is vended, but was a wholesome and comfortable beverage. In proportion as the price has risen, the quality has fallen. This barony may still be entitled to that proud distinction of raising more grain, than any other in the kingdom; but since the corn laws and regulations were enacted, counties and provinces are covered with the most beautiful crops, that had never perhaps felt the plough share before. This system which has spread wealth and prosperity over the land, owes its origin and progress to the right honourable John Foster, of the county of Louth, last Speaker of the House of Commons.

Produce.

In order that an idea may be formed of the quantity of corn raised in this parish, we shall enter an account of the produce in one denomination for the harvest of 1813, by which a reasonable calculation may be made of the total, there being no material difference in the corn soil, through the union.

In KILSCORAN, in 1813.

Barley... ..	3084 barrels.
Oats.....	1334 ditto.
Beans.....	977 ditto.
Wheat.....	356 ditto.

Total5751

The landlords residing on their estates, are kind ^{Landlords.} and indulgent to their tenants; and although they let their ground at high rents, hitherto there has been no complaint. The gentlemen whose tenants can be accommodated with these incomparable means already described, are intitled to the highest rents that can be paid for land at this distance from the capital. Wherever there exists any murmur, it is against those proprietors who have it not in their power to supply these manures, yet charge as highly as if they had. They either do not know, or do not allow for this material difference; for what can be more unreasonable than to expect great returns from ground of similar quality and value, where one farm may be manured in the cheapest and best manner, and the other cannot be so manured at all? and on these returns the landlords, as well as the tenants, must form their estimate. It may be stated for the honour of both, that there is no pound in the parish, nor perhaps in the whole barony; neither stocks, ducking-stool, nor any other kind of disgrace or punishment.

It were to be wished that the agents to proprietors ^{Agents.} would make themselves acquainted with the rents paid to resident landlords, as also with particular

circumstances of manure, roads, and markets, and render such a representation thereof to their employers, as may prevent or moderate the complaints of the people.

Rents.

There is no means of ascertaining the average rent of the land in this union, so as to afford a distinct reply to the query on that head. Numbers of farms were let many years ago on leases of lives, which may be averaged at 18s. per acre : those grounds let about fifteen years ago, may be considered at 40s. whilst those within the last five years, are up to 70s. putting these three rents together, and dividing by three, the product will be £2 2s. 8d. ; and this is about the yearly acreable rent paid to the chief landlord in this county, on an average.

Middlemen

But here let it be understood, that we confine ourselves to the rent of land let by the chief proprietor ; and do not draw into notice the rack rent imposed and extorted by middlemen of these times. This was a description of persons who were of infinite service in the reclaiming of grounds ; and whilst improving the face of the country, they were enriching themselves, and making fortunes for their families. But the middlemen of the present day, are themselves but low farmers, a set of harpies, who spread misery and oppression on the unhappy creatures who are compelled to live under them. These sufferers are for the most part tradesmen, without whom the country life would be insupportable, and who should meet with every encouragement, blacksmiths, ploughmakers, taylor, weavers, brogue and shoemakers, &c. &c.

We will here give two instances of this severity, Middlemen which accidentally came to our knowledge, but with which we are satisfied the chief proprietors are entirely unacquainted. One is the case of a shoemaker, named Lambert, whose landlord charges him ten pounds sterling a year, for two acres of ground, without a house or inclosure. All the savings of his early days, were laid out on building a cabin and work-shop. The other is that of a blacksmith, named Blake, who has been still more exacted upon: this poor man took a bit of ground in the corner of a field at a cross road, as a fit place for erecting a forge, and carrying on the business of his trade; and the unconscionable wretch who rented the farm, absolutely insisted on being paid twelve pounds a year, for one acre and a half; and the roads were surveyed in, so that he computed he had but an acre and a fourth, for all his rent; and that too, without house or home. This man came to pay the rector for his tythe, who, on learning what annual rent he was subjected to, expected something in proportion for himself; but to his surprize, not to mention his mortification and disappointment, he produced as full payment, the sum of two shillings and twopence, being the whole charge for the year 1813. In answer to some remarks of the clergyman, poor Vulcan said, "Ah sir, we could not live at all, if we had not a bargain in our tythes." If these two cases are selected, it is because the writer is acquainted with them alone; but he has since heard that there are hundreds of such creatures in this district, who are compelled to undergo any rent that may be desired, in order to have a shelter for themselves and their families.

Middlemen So long as these under tenants are blessed with health and strength, they struggle against all the solicitations of nature to make up their rent; but if sickness or misfortune should visit their dwellings, there is no resource but in begging or stealing. The sick bed is voracious in the extreme, and in a very, very short time, would consume the products of many years' frugality. This want may in the common course of things happen, and at a period when there is neither prevention nor remedy. The class of middlemen causes more misery, if not a greater accumulation of vice, than is generally imagined or imputed to them. What is passed, cannot be recalled, but landlords have it in their power to prevent the recurrence of this evil, by having a covenant in their leases that the tenant shall not alienate any of his ground, without their permission and consent.

X. Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.

Trade. There is no manufactory of a public kind in the parish, yet every family is clothed in homespun materials. Industry is the prevailing feature, corn the staple; to promote that, is the sole occupation of the population. Men, women, old and young, are working in the fields together, from the rising of the lark to the setting sun, excepting at noon when they dine and sleep, taking what is called their "intitle," for about two hours. At this time their doors are closed, and a stillness like that which prevails at midnight in other parts, is here observed in the mid-day. This gave rise to a ludicrous charge against the cocks and hens, that they went to roost at the same time—"credat Judæus."

Besides the benefits resulting to the parish from **Fishing**, its proximity to manures, as before mentioned, it derives incalculable wealth and food from fishing. The most lucrative branch is that of herrings. Above one hundred cots are employed in the different bays of this parish, during the season. There are five men to each cot, and every man has two nets of fifteen fathoms each; these ten nets are tied together by strong cords; one is fastened to the boat, and the rest stretched out in a straight line; all drift with the tide, and the herrings rushing headlong into the meshes, are caught by the gills.

The extent of the lines in every boat amounts to three hundred yards; when it has been found that above 100 cots are out together, it is surprizing that a herring escapes. Some boats lately took thirty-five mease, but few less than twenty-five; suppose the average at 30, the sale without any trouble in carrying, was 2 guineas a mease, which will stand nearly thus:

100 cots at 30 pounds each.....	£3000.
3000 at 2 ditto.....	6000.
500 men at 12 ditto.....	6000.

XI. Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.

The country is too level to admit of beauty, and is not enriched with any natural curiosities; the writer has not been able to discover that there has been any occurrence, or any very distinguished person in it, worthy of being particularly noticed.

Incumbents.

List of incumbents, extracted from the First Fruits' Records.

Edmund Burdeaux admiss. die & anno. supra-dict. (6 Oct. 1618) vicar de Tacumshane, £7 7s.

Per certific. Richard Fernen, &c. dat. 10^o die May, 1667.

Bartholom. Vigors institut. fuit in rector. de Roslare & Ballymore, & vicar. de Tacumshane, al. Thacomshane, £7 7s. in dioc. pred. & com. pred.

Rob. Stannard induct. fuit 12^o die Oct. 1681, ad & in vicaria. de Tacumshane, £5 10s. 4d. R. de Rosslare, £29 11s. 9d. L. V. de Roslare, £12. & Ballymore R. de Kilscorean, £19 18s. 3d. & in vic. de Killcoane, £5 10s. Dioc. Fern. & com. Wexford.

Johes Haugh, cler. collat. & induct. fuit, 6^o die Dec. 1686, in R. de Kilscorean, £26 11s. V. de Tacumshane, £5 10s. 3d. Roslare £12. Ballymore & Kilrane, dioc. Fern. com. Wexford.

Gul. Owens, cler. in A. M. collat. & institut. fuit 9^o die Dec. 1709, ad. cancell. Fernen. Rect. Kilscoreane, Killelane, Ballymore & Roslare, & ad vic. Tacumshane, Roslare, & Kilrane, dioc. Fernen. & com. Wexford.

Joseph Palmer, A. M. collated 13 March, 1772, chancellorship eath. church of St. Edan, otherwise Moage Ferns, consisting of the consolidated R. Tacumshane, n. t. V. Tacumshane, £7 7s. R. Rosslare, £39 9s. V. Rosslare, £16. R. Kilscorean, £26 11s. R. Ballymore, n. t. R. Killilane, n. t.

Chris. Butson, D. D. collated 12 March, 1801, chancellorship in eath. church of St. Edan, otherwise Mogue Ferns, £32 11s. 8d. consisting of the consolidated R. & V. of Tacumshane, £7 7. R. & V. of

Rosslare, £55 9s. Rs. of Kilsoran, Ballymore, & Killelane, £26 11. Imp. cur. St. Margaret's.

Hen. Bate Dudley, instit. 10 Aug. 1805, chancellorship cath. church of St. Edan or Mogue, consisting of the consolidated R. & V. of Tacumshane, £5 10s. 3d. R. & V. of Rosslare, £41. 11s 9d. R. of Kilsoran, £19 18s. 3. Ballymore, n. t. & Killelane, n. t. and the impte. cure of St. Margaret's.

Rev. Wm. Eastwood, A. M. collated on or about the 2d Jan. 1813, to the chancellorship of Ferns, consisting of the consolidated rect. & vic. of Tacumshane, the rect. & vic. of Rosslare, the rect. of Kilsoran, Ballymore, & Killelane, the vic. of Kilrane, & the impropriate cure of Saint Magaret's, all situate in the co. Wexford, and dioc. of Ferns, void by the voluntary resignation of the Rev. Sir Henry Bate Dudley, bart. clerk, late incumbent thereof, who held same from the 10th Aug. 1805.

XII. Suggestions for Improvement, and Means for meliorating the Condition of the People.

A considerable accession of land is expected to Major James Boyd's, in the parish of Rosslare, by excluding the sea. The method is new and very expensive: instead of shutting out the tide by one embankment formed from one given point to another, or making a ditch from island to island, and so constructing a rampart, a spirited company who rent the expected ground, dashed at once into the water: taking the strand for a basis, they erected two perpendiculars above three miles asunder, which they carried out from two, to two miles and a half in the water, and intend to complete the parallelogram by running a line between the two extremes; that

being perfected, the enclosure will be complete, and as is hoped, permanent. This method is altogether different from what has been heretofore pursued here, or perhaps elsewhere. Instead of sinking faggots or furze, or driving down piles of wood, this ingenious company collected the small grass or seaweed, with which the coast abounds, and strewing it on the mud, trod it in with the feet, until it became solid and consistent. They took the idea probably from the manner in which mud is prepared in this country for house building. The rector has been on these banks, and considers these that are finished, as entirely staunch, and likely to endure. The ground expected to be acquired will exceed six hundred acres, and the land will be of prime quality. The embankment is made at the south east end of the harbour, where have been deposited the alluvions of the river Slany, enriched by the street dirt of Wexford, which is carried by floods into the channel, forming a deep and extensive bank of manure, and of which the company purpose to make arable and pasture ground.

The writer has examined the strand belonging to the see of Ferns, as also that of Lord Monck, and John Knox Grogan, Esq. on the east of the bay, and has no doubt but a much greater tract may be enclosed, than there can be on the shore appertaining to Major Boyd; and moreover that the land could be reclaimed with less expense, and in a much shorter space of time. In order to enable all persons under restrictions and settlements to adopt this most beneficial measure, it is said that Mr. Vere, the principal of the firm, is to propose a bill to Parliament, for the removal of these impediments.

Would not the bay and bar be deepened by narrowing the expanse of water? the river would be more rapid, as well as swelled by confinement, and the sand-banks at the entrance of the harbour compelled to give way by its accumulating force.

Every method that could be expected to produce security to mariners, should be eagerly embraced, not only by the government, but by corporate bodies and individuals. An easy entry into the harbour of Wexford would be the means, under divine providence, of saving many lives, and acquiring incalculable property.

The whole of the coast in this country must be considered as unfriendly to navigation, of which melancholy proofs are given every year. In justice to the resident gentlemen, the writer feels great pleasure in stating, that they use every means in their power to mitigate the miseries resulting from shipwreck. They take into their houses the unhappy crew, and treat them with humanity; moreover they exercise all their authority to prevent plunder. The coast officers perform their duty with unceasing ardor and vigilance, regardless of danger from tempestuous weather or purloiners. The selection of such persons for the offices they fill, and in truth, for all the situations in the customs and excise in this county, reflects high honor on the late Marquis of Ely, to whom the government conceded the appointment.

About fourteen years ago, the furnisher of this account happened to dine at a gentleman's house in this parish, when the subject of shipwrecks was

started, as being very frequent, and no means could be devised to prevent their recurrence; he begged leave to differ in opinion. The company looked at him with an impatience arising from human feelings, to hear what project could be suggested and pursued for a purpose so benevolent. He then mentioned that if a light house were placed on Tuskar rock, it would contribute to the safety of many vessels, and particularly as there was not one from the tower of Hook to Wicklow; other reasons he assigned, and the idea was hailed by all present, except the rector, who was one of the party: jealous, perhaps, that this remark had not originated from himself, he sharply replied, "that he might as well propose paving the channel across to St. David's head in Wales." However, a most admirable round tower has been erected on this rock, and will be speedily supplied with lights, whereas we have not yet understood that the pavement is even begun. On the 4th June, 1815, the tower was first lighted at the hour of sun set, and was hailed by thousands of spectators, who assembled on the occasion. The lamp revolves on its axis, and exhibits three different shades of light in each rotation. It is most consolatory to reflect, that no life whatever has been lost since its erection; that very few wrecks have happened since, and even these few took place in impenetrable fogs.

There are some parishes in this union consolidated by act of council; and in each there are the remains of an old church and church yard, from which however, the incumbent derives no emolument, as no charge is made for burying the dead. They are called the freehold of the rector, and those in his parish

are truly so to him. No doubt exists but there was a glebe annexed to every one of these old churches, which has sunk into the possession of the landholder, and cannot be easily traced or recovered. And in truth it may be imagined there will not be found many gentlemen who will surrender an acre of ground to the church that has been obtained by inheritance, however unfairly; yet notwithstanding this unwillingness to part with what property we possess, were gentlemen to examine their maps, the present rector would expect from some of his acquaintance, an unreluctant surrender of what they will find does not belong to them. The Down Survey and maps of Sir William Petty have been of essential service to the clergy, as by them many glebes have been recovered; but his silence is no bar against their claims. Exactness could not be expected in a work of such magnitude, especially when executed in a short space of time. There are two of these lost glebes in these parishes, that are not noticed by him, yet they are called "the glebes," to this day. In one, there are such evident marks of its ancient appropriation, as must remove all doubts concerning it. In the church yard there is a famous stone, with curious impressions, possessing fancied powers of working miracles; near this is an holy well, and around a considerable distance and extent (not less than twenty acres) may be traced the ground on which pilgrims trod. Where these exist together, and are in or near to the church yard, they appear to be incontestable proofs of their former annexation to the benefice. All the old decayed chapels were built before the reformation, and were in possession of the clergy of those ancient times, when these ce-

remonies were particularly observed : these ceremonies, and no others of a religious nature were attended to, after their pastors were removed ; they remain to this day, and many persons still consider themselves as spiritually benefited by the observing of them. If they did not believe that the ground was sacred ; if they had any doubt of the well being holy, it is certain that these pious souls would not persist in visiting this place, with the view of obtaining pardon for their sins, or any other benefit whatever.

The conclusion that may be drawn from these positions is this, that all land so consecrated did belong to the clergy antecedent to the reformation ; and that it is the lawful property of the clergy of the church of Ireland at the present, who should have the full fruition thereof. 'The Board of First Fruits' may interpose their kind offices in this important business, and try to restore to the present possessors and their successors for ever, all their appurtenances, and that too without expense.

Perhaps it is a singular circumstance in church preferments, that the five last incumbents of this parish, including the present rector, are now living, (at least nothing is known to the contrary) in the retrograde order here given ; Sir Henry Bate Dudley was the present rector's immediate predecessor ; the Dean of Waterford ; the Lord Bishop of Clonfert ; and the Dean of Cashell, who built the house.

It is a particular grievance for the writer, as it has been no doubt to his predecessors, that Dean Palmer

should have undertaken to build an house and offices, as he was not possessed of any skill whatever in architecture, and fashioned his rooms more for the exhibition of his uncle's (Sir Joshua Reynolds) pictures, than for comfort or convenience. Not a gleam of sunshine enters into these galleries, excepting for five weeks in the long days of summer, when the setting sun coming under the eye is so annoying, as to oblige the shutters to be closed. Moreover this projector had the peculiar talent of misplacing every thing: the house ought to be where the garden is placed, and the garden where he built the house, which is close under the church yard, that rising many feet above the level, overflows the entire ground floor after rain; added to this, a part of the concerns is built on ground held by lease of the builder's life. This was not discovered by any of his successors, and only a short time ago by the Rev. William Eastwood. He had no right to claim a shilling, as he could not convey the property in perpetuity; yet he has been paid all. Mr. Eastwood is the fourth and last in remainder. But besides all these objections, there is another that is equal to all the rest put together; the whole fabrick is in an unsafe, untenantable condition: one of the offices fell last winter, and another is in imminent danger; the church too has been condemned, and money levied on the parish to erect a new one, on a much larger scale; for although the present is of considerable size, it is much too small for the congregation.

· A modus exists in the parishes of this barony with *Modus.* regard to small tythes, which does not prevail in any

other part of Ireland. Wheresoever the great tythes belong to one person, and the small to another, whether layman or ecclesiastic, the vicar has not only those already described, viz. hay, potatoes, lamb, wool, milk, &c. but tythe for three successive crops of corn after potatoes, should there be so many; and tythe of three crops of corn from meadow land thrice mowed; as also the tythe of nine feet in depth round every other field bearing corn; so that in a thickly inhabited parish, the vicar's interest is at least equal to that of the rector.

A tythe fever broke out here in the first year of the present rector's incumbency, before he could enter on any business with the natives, and when he was in England on account of his health. This extraordinary and unprovoked aggression was opposed by the two first gentlemen Messrs. Nunn, and by Mr. Tench of Ballyhaly, in the adjoining barony; they most generously sent their stewards, their trusty servants and labourers, to his assistance, and by their exertions, put down in some degree, the violence of the distemper. "*Principiis obsta,*" was their motto. If the same friendship and kindness were shewn to the clergy by the gentlemen of landed property, there would be none of those clamours about tythes which we hear of every year, and which are peradventure, as unjust and ungenerous, as in the present instance. A nameless ruffian from another parish carried the infection into this, and associated himself with a farmer, known by the name of Counsellor Fletcher. These people are fond of giving nicknames; but it is not known in this case for whom the compliment was intended, whether for the judge or the farmer.

It may be observed with regard to tythes in general, no blame can attach to the clergy for their management of them, for in fact they are only automata. They are the only persons in the state, that have not the full power over their property. The land proprietor can value his ground, and set it, according to his own judgment, without the assistance of an agent; the merchant can sell his goods according to the price he puts upon them; the artist may rate his own productions; and in a word, every person from the king to the mechanic, may use his own discretion, and exercise his own reason in conducting his business; the clergy alone, are denied this privilege. It may be, that they were considered to be incompetent judges of such matters, on account of their early avocations, and were supplied with other means to protect them; these means are valuers, stewards, or, as they are generally called, proctors; to these we must resort, and on their returns depend: we cannot interfere, for our interference would be of no avail: on any opposition and trial, their opinion and judgment alone, guide the bench. These proctors are chosen by the parson, from the farmers of his parish, the most respectable he can engage; to these he commits the entire valuation of his estate and property in tythes, and must abide by their estimate; he may reduce, but cannot raise it a farthing. These men we will admit are fair, impartial and skilful, they cannot notwithstanding be supposed to have a predelection in favour of their employer, who is perhaps a total stranger, certainly possessing a passing interest, to the prejudice of the fixed inhabitants, many of whom may be their youthful associates, neighbours, friends

and relations ; but if they were disposed to favour their employer, the farmer would not submit to an overcharge, and as he has it at his option, whether to agree or reject, we may well imagine he consults his own interest, in which he cannot be deceived, before he comes to a decision. It is therefore evident, that all charges of exaction against the clergy with respect to tythe, are wholly groundless.

Until the year 1770, the rector of Kilsoran was in the habit of receiving tythes of herrings, so many from each buss yearly. An objection having been started, and a suit established by the fishermen with the view of breaking this custom, it so happened that the herrings forsook the coast altogether, and did not for twenty years, come in on any part of it, which gave rise to many ludicrous remarks by these innocent and superstitious people. Forgetting or forgiving this invasion on the parson, the fish at length returned to our shores, and now afford comfort and convenience to thousands, besides affluence to the families concerned. Lest a similar occurrence should happen, and the herrings be compelled again to abandon the coast as a mark of their displeasure to the fishermen, the clergy have not on any part of it, renewed the custom.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

AVERAGE PRICES OF GRAIN, &c. PER BARREL
OF 20 STONE.

	1813.	1814.	1815.
Wheat.....	50s.....	30s.....	28.
Beans.....	35	20	14.
Barley	25	14	10.
Oats	20	10	8.
Potatoes.....	5	5	4. 2d.

No. 2.

AVERAGE PRICES OF PROVISIONS PER POUND.

	1813.	1814.	1815.
Beef.....	5d. to 6d	4d. to 5d.....	4d. to 5d.
Mutton	6 to 7	5 to 6	5 to 6.
Pork	6 to 6½	3 to 4	3 to 4.
Veal	7 to 8	4 to 5	4 to 5,

No. 3.

MARKET OF FOWL FOR THE YEAR ENDING 1813,

Fat, killed, and prepared for use.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Geese	1	4	to	1 10 each.
Turkeys.....	1	6	to	1 10 ditto.
Ducks.....	1	8	to	2 0 per pair.
Barn door fowl.....	1	2	to	1 4 per couple.
Crammed, do.....	2	6	to	4 2 ditto.

There has been a reduction in the prices of the above in the next two years, not however worth remarking.

No. 4.

AVERAGE VALUE OF STOCK, IN THE YEAR 1813.

Best horses.....	£40	to	£50.
Inferior	25	to	30.
Third-rate	10	to	15.
Mules	8	to	10.
Best fat cows....	12	to	18.
Dry cows	8	to	12.
Sheep, prime	20s.	to	25s.
Second rate ...	14	to	18.
Pigs ...	45	per cwt.	

All these fell considerably in the years 1814, and 1815. They may be rated at one half of the above value in Christmas 1815.

 No. 5.

 PARISH REGISTRY from 1813 to 1815 inclusive,
 ending 25th March.

Marriages.....	4,
Baptisms	17.
Burials.....	5.

No. XXII.

PARISH OF

T A M L A G H T,

(*Diocese of Armagh, and Counties of Londonderry
and Tyrone.*)

BY THE REV. ISAAC ASHE, INCUMBENT.

I. *The Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

THE parish of Tamlaght, situated in the 55° 30' Situation; north latitude, and 7° 10' west longitude, was formerly united to Ballinderry, and lies within about two miles and a half of Ballinderry church, in the baronies of Loughinsholand and Dungannon, in the counties of Londonderry and Tyrone, and in the diocese of Armagh, being bounded by the parishes Boundaries of Ballinderry, Altna, Arbal and Ballyclog.

This parish contains twelve townlands, and is about Contents. three miles in length, and two in breadth. The number of acres are 2400 Irish, exclusive of many acres of bog. About two-thirds of the surface are arable, the rest is pasture or meadow. There are no mountains, nor are the bogs of much extent. Coagh river rises in Slieve Galen mountain, near Money-
more, and falls into Loughneagh. The soil is pe-

culiarly congenial to the ash, and various kinds of fir trees, which thrive well.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

Limestone. The principal manure is limestone, of which there are several good quarries in the parish, and much of the lime is used on the farms to good account. It is of late years mostly mixed with soil and earth, in large heaps, and afterwards spread on the lands. The colour of the limestone found in and about the parish, is of a yellowish white¹; it is burned in two different ways, viz. by arches and by pot ways, as it is here called; in the former, the fire is put into the arches, and the heat ascends to the kiln; in the latter there is a layer of coals or turf, then of lime alternately.

Fish. The river Coagh is famous for trout of different sizes; the country is also in the season well supplied with pullen, trout, and eels from Toome, of considerable size and good flavour. As to land animals, there are plenty of hares, but few or no foxes. The common species of game are to be found here: there are also partridges, snipes, &c.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

Village. Coagh is a neat village in the centre of the parish on the Tyrone side, and on the south side of Coagh river, over which is a good stone bridge. It contains about forty houses well built, and has the appearance of a small English village. George Lenox Conyngham, of Springhill, Esq. is the proprietor. There are

a number of neat houses scattered through the parish, all built in the cottage style.

Mr. George's house of Silver-hill, to whom the Gentle- writer is indebted for much information on the pre- mens' Seats sent subject, Mr. Browne's of Ruskey, and Mr. Millar's of Tamlaght, are each two stories high and slated. They are very handsome seats, and add much to the beauty of the country.

Six high roads intersect the parish, all leading in Roads. different directions to the village of Coagh. They are repaired in the following manner: if any unevenness appears, it is levelled with a crow iron, a layer of lime is then laid or broken fine, over which is placed a layer of sand. This is a bad practice, as the whole turns into mud, and is swept away for manure. The rate of mending is about 7s. per perch. The surrounding villages are Cookstown, pleasingly situated, and belonging to James Stewart, Esq. of Killymoon, four miles to the west; Moneymore, belonging to the Rowley family, who hold under one of the London corporations, three miles to the north; Maharafelt, six miles to the east; and Stewartstown, five miles to the south, belonging to the Marquis of Londonderry, who also holds by a similar tenure.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

On the glebe near the road is a stupendous high Druidical stone, erected on six others, supposed to have been Altar. a Druidical altar; it is considered a great curiosity: it is commonly called Cloughtogel, and there are

some other large stones of a similar appearance, particularly one standing on the glebe called the Honey-mug.

Cemetery. There is an old burial place at the bottom of the new church yard, in which there was an ancient stone and lime building, always called the old church of Tamlaght. It had but one door, and was badly lighted, so that it is difficult to say for what purpose it was intended: the old wall was taken down to build the new church.

V. Present & Former State of Population, Food, &c.

Population The number of inhabitants is between 1200 and 1300; they in general live comfortably: the two years immediately succeeding the termination of the war have however been much against the lower classes. In the parish there are about 144 horses; present value from £12 to £30 each; but as there are but few of the best sort, they may be valued at £15 each. In general the inhabitants have a cow, or at least a goat and a pig, but the latter is frequently fattened to pay the rent. Potatoes are sold at 10d. per bushel; meal 2s. 2d. per stone. Many leases in this neighbourhood expired three or four years ago; and as every article in the farming line bore then a very high price, the rents were doubled, and in some instances raised even higher. In the parish there may be about 800 cows, valued at from six to nine guineas each. There is a great number of swine bred and reared, but as they are mostly killed at twelve or fourteen months old, they seldom attain a large size. The sheep or lambs are very

few, only five or six persons having land enough to keep them, as sheep require an extensive range for pasturage. The poorer classes live on potatoes three-fourths of the year, and oatmeal the other quarter. The bread most generally made use of is oaten; but in the more substantial farmers' houses, wheaten-meal and rye mixed, is also used; and the children of the better sort eat no other. Stirabout is the general food for breakfast, and potatoes for supper; the difference of food between the higher and lower classes, is chiefly at dinner. There are, however, very few on the list of paupers.

We are tolerably well supplied with turf; and there is also an excellent mine of coal lately discovered, within one mile of the road to Stewartstown, and four from Tamlaght, on Mr. Lindsay's estate; the larger sized coals for family use may be had at £1 a ton, and smiths' at 6s. The fire places of the cabins are situated against the gable of the house when there are only two rooms; and when three, are against the middle wall, so as to warm the inner apartment.

VI. The Genius & Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.

In genius and disposition, the inhabitants are very similar to those in other parts of the neighbouring country. The writer has been incumbent of this parish for twenty-four years, and has not for that space of time perceived the least animosity between the different denominations of christians on account of their religious opinions, and their clergy live freely together on a friendly footing; if this

habit were universal, the country would assume a very different aspect.

The middling farmers who hold only four or five acres of land, and the entire peasantry of the country for ten or twelve miles round, and perhaps much farther, are as civilized in their manners, as respectful to their superiors, as friendly with their equals, and as charitable to the poor, to whom they seldom refuse relief, or a nights' lodging, as the peasantry of England in any one province in the same extent of ground, and at the same distance from the capital. They keep themselves in general clean and decent, and on Sundays or market days the women, and especially the young ones, might by their deportment and appearance, pass for females of a much higher order; nay, what is more extraordinary, they speak the English language more correctly, and with better accent, than the peasantry in general do in England. The writer has known a clergyman, a man of talents and genius, who had been head assistant to the first school in Ireland, declare that he was ashamed when sitting at the window, to hear the common people as they passed through the street on a market day, speak the English language so much more intelligibly than he could: he was a Yorkshire man. The Irish language is still spoken, though it is much on the decline, being chiefly confined to some of the lower classes.

The immoderate use of tobacco in various ways by both sexes, old and young, is certainly a great drawback on their industry, and no small addition to their expences, and yet by habit, it is now become a

luxury, or rather a necessary which they can scarcely do without: there are many who would sooner fast the whole day than be without their tobacco, and for the writer's part, as he indulges himself in snuff he would be inclined to give them a trifle on that plea as well as any other. This recalls to his mind a conversation he heard when very young, between two learned gentlemen on that subject, Dr. Leland fellow of Trinity College and Dean Domville; the latter was reprobating the use of tobacco in all its forms, the Doctor, who did not spare the snuff-box, very good-humouredly said, that he thought we had so many trials and sorrows in life, that it was well done to increase its innocent gratifications; and we must acknowledge that we agree with him, if it can be done without injuring us in other particulars.

VII. The Education and Employment of Children, &c.

The practice of teaching children to read, is Education. gaining ground every day. The girls at other times are employed in spinning and at the needle; the boys in the season in ploughing, drawing turf, herding, and cleaning the high road. Four English schools are taught independently of the parish school. There are on an average thirty or forty pupils in each. The books used by the children in the village and hedge schools, are the testament and bible. A Sunday school has been lately opened on the borders of the two parishes, Arboe and Tamlaght, which is very well attended. It is chiefly under the patronage of a Mr. and Mrs. Johnston, of the seceding congregation. There is also one established at Cookstown, and six or seven hundred children at-

Education. tend every Sunday. They have not any masters to pay in either place, as the respectable people of the neighbourhood attend for the purpose of giving instruction.

With respect to education, it were to be wished that it were extended as far as possible to the lower classes of society; but in general confined to their being taught a decency of manners, their duty to God and man, and reading, in addition to which the girls should be taught to sew: an education carried much farther, would rather be injurious to them, and render them less inclined to earn their future livelihood by the sweat of their brow, which is what they are to look forward to. Females should rather be instructed than boys, because when they come to be married women, they would instruct their children; but the men, after the labour of the day, are generally too much fatigued, and but little inclined to pay proper attention to their children.

The incumbent of Ballyclog has procured to be founded in his parish a school on a large scale, in which the children of both sexes are taught decency of manners, their duty to God and man, to read and write, and the girls to sew. Cloaths are also procured for the poor, which they repay when they sell their yarn; the incumbent supplying them with flax, which they repay also, and which is certainly the most prudent way of relieving their wants. It is surprising what a pleasing and delightful change has taken place in the parish, in the course of a few years, even in the external appearance of the glebe itself, and the land adjacent. Mr. Gore, (for that is the benevolent gentleman's name,) has no assis-

tance in these charitable actions, except from Lady Education. Castlestewart, who, as the writer has been informed, is always ready to second his good intentions.

There is also a school established by Dr. Hall, at Arboe, but not on so extensive a scale; as Mr. Gore's is an endowed school, and Dr. Hall's entirely private, and kept in the lodge. Miss Hall, who is indefatigable in doing good, passes many hours in the day there.

There are no public libraries, nor Irish, or other MSS. in this parish, that the writer has heard of. The newspapers taken in by the parishioners, are in general the Belfast Commercial Chronicle and News Letter. We have no reviews, or magazines, and even but few newspapers are taken here.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

Tamlaght was erected into a separate parish by ^{Founda-} Primate Robinson Baron Rokeby, about thirty years ago, by connecting to it six townlands from Ballinderry, and six from Ballyclog, the adjoining parishes, and endowing it with a glebe of forty Irish acres, by an exchange of lands with a Captain Lecky, one of the See tenants, and two for the parish schoolmaster, who is also the parish clerk, offices which, as the salary is so trifling, ought to be united whenever they can. Mr. Clerk was the first rector, and ^{Incum-} Mr. Jocelyn, now Bishop of Ferns, the second, whom ^{bents.} the present incumbent succeeded. He was promoted to this parish from being one of the minor canons of Armagh, by the late Primate Robinson Baron Roke-

by, at the recommendation of the late Dr. Hamilton, then Dean of Armagh, afterwards Bishop of Ossory, well known in the literary world by many scientific treatises, but more particularly by his much admired essay on the Being and attributes of God, in which he has attempted, as he was pleased to express it himself, to prove demonstratively those leading truths so essential to sound morality and pure religion, and which, in the opinion of very competent judges, he has founded on a degree of mathematical certainty, that cannot be controverted, and which has afforded no small satisfaction to the philosophic mind.

Ballinderry parish, after the six townlands were deducted from it, was only valued at £200 a year about thirty years ago. The present incumbent has raised it to £800; and what renders it more valuable is, that the chief part of the income arises from glebe. Ballyclog cannot be valued at more than £350.

Glebe
House.

Tamlaght glebe house was built about thirty years ago; the charge was £430, the income of the parish being valued at £218 on oath. It is in tolerably good order, built on the declivity of an hill, has a command of the village of Coagh, and occasionally of Loughneagh. It has a most beautiful appearance, and there are a good many trees in the glebe, planted by the present rector. The parish with the glebe may be valued at £300 a year. It is in the patronage of the Lord Primate.

Advowson.

Meeting
House.

There is one church and one glebe house, which are on the Derry side; also one Presbyterian meeting-

house, the clergyman of which is a Mr. Cowan, a person so much and deservedly respected by his congregation; he is on the second establishment, and the congregation composes the majority of the parish. The Seceders' house, though not in the parish of Tamlaght, is contiguous to it, and has a large congregation. The seceding clergyman, Mr. Steen, lived in the parish, but paid the debt of nature some time ago. The custom is not to appoint another for the space of a year, but to send down probationers, and the people chuse him whose doctrine and mode of delivery please them best: they are on the second establishment; a Mr. Herring has been lately chosen.

There is no Roman Catholic chapel in the parish, nor any Roman Catholic clergyman resident here; the nearest chapel is at Moneymore, three miles off. Methodism is not as yet introduced among the people.

The rate of tythes are 1s. 6d. to 2s. 4d. per acre, *Tythes.* for the farm-flax, be the quantity more or less; 6d. potatoes, the same.

There are very few marriages solemnized in the parish by the clergyman of the established church, the reason of which is, that they do not wish to be at the expense of licence, nor yet to be called three Sundays, and therefore apply for that purpose where those ceremonies are dispensed with. The number of baptisms may be about forty in the year; but many of them are from other parishes, as this is very central, and they are sure of meeting the rector at

home. He is seldom called on to attend funerals: if it be the funeral of a Roman Catholic, the priest attends; and the Dissenters have not in general, any funeral service; however he most commonly goes over to the church yard, and offers to officiate; and of late, it is sometimes accepted, and when it is, is much attended to, for they begin to be of opinion, that though it may not do any good to the dead, there is a decency in it, and that such an admirable composition cannot fail, at such an awful moment, to make a deep impression on the living.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

Crops.

The farmers are improving much in agriculture, and raising great crops of grasses, clover, turnips, oats and barley, with some wheat; they are beginning to use the Scotch plough. They keep a good stock of horses and cows, but few sheep. It might be observed here, that a considerable part of Tamlaght, and of the lands in general through this district, are Primate's land; and perhaps it is extremely fortunate for Ireland that so much land is in the hands of the bishops, for if the same extent of country belonged to lay proprietors as landlords, the lands would be set to the head tenants for eight times the rent they are now set for; and not only so, but most probably many of the proprietors in chief, would be absenteees; and as the different Sees, if set to their full amount, would be near £500,000 this would be an excessive drain from the country. No duties are exacted, the tenants however sometimes pay a compliment to the agent in drawing home his turf, in return they and their horses are well fed.

Labourers' wages per day average without diet at 15d.; with diet at 10d.; so that if they have their own flax, and two or three women spinning in the house, they cannot be in any great want of the mere necessities, or even some of the comforts of life; as the man can earn at least a bushel of potatoes in the day, and each woman 5d. In the year 1815, the writer of this return offered two bushels of potatoes a day as wages to a digger and gatherer, but no one would accept the offer.

Wages of
Labour.

It is very customary for persons to divide the farm with their children, therefore there are few farms from more than 8 to 12 acres; there are only a few from 20 to 30. The tenures are generally from 14 to 21 years; and in some cases one or two lives are given. Unfortunately many leases expired about two years ago, when land was at the highest, and when high prices were given for every thing in the farming line, and the landlords do not seem inclined to make any abatement, though every thing is now so much reduced in price.

Gavelkind.

The Dissenters are of a very independent spirit, and that is a great spur to industry and economy. They frequently carry on the farming business here in what they call the morrowing way, that is, two men who have each a horse, accommodate one another daily, or perhaps week about. It would be of advantage if bullocks would be introduced as in France, for the purpose of ploughing and draining; when considered past labour, they would answer for food, and could be fed at a much cheaper rate than horses; but the tax on horses will probably gradually produce that effect.

Fair. The only fair in the parish is that of Coagh, held on the second Friday in every month: it is well attended.

X. Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.

**Linen
Manufac-
ture.**

The linen manufacture is carried on in each town-land. There are at least 140 looms working at linen, besides a few at cotton; the linen made is 7-eighths or 3-fourths wide, and sells from 10d. to 2s. per yard. It is from this alone that the tenants are enabled to pay their rents, for they most certainly could not pay it from the profit of their farms.

XI. Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.

The small insignificant village of Coagh, produced the much spoken of giant "Burns;" he was eight feet two inches high.

**Incum-
bents.**

List of incumbents, extracted from the First Fruits' Records.

Johes. Binns admiss. 20 Martii, 1616, rector de Balliderry, Tawlaght, com. Tirone.

Harman Shepherd admiss. 10^o April, 1618, rector de Ballyderry, rector de Tawlaght.

1633. Archiepus. confert rector. de Tawlat valet. £9 per annum. Mr. Michael Birkett, pdc. rector. Idem collatus fuit per Christopher. Armachan. Aepum. ad rector. de Ballyderry, Tawlaght, 28^o Aprilis, 1622, et inductus 19^o Maii, 1622.

Richard Wheelright institut. fuit 15^o die Sept. 1664, ad rect. de Tawlaght & Ballinderry, £3 6s. 8d. ster.

Andreas Law collat. 29^o die April. 1669, ad rector. de Tawlaght & Ballinderry, & Magherafelt in com. Deren.

Johes. Forbessie collat. fuit 21^o Aug. 1673, ad rec. de Tawlaght & Ballinderry in dioc. Armach.

Thomas Power clicus. collat. 19^o die mensis Julii, 1725, ad rectorias de Ballinderry & Tamlatt, dioc. Arm.

Alex. Bissett, rect. Ballinderry, rect. Tamlaght, 22 July, 1731, Armagh; £3 6s. 8.

William Lill, A. M. 16 Aug. 1757, rect. Ballinderry & Tawlaght, £3 6s. 8.

Wm. Lodge, collated 19 Dec. 1771, R. Ballinderry R. Tamlaght, Tyrone, n. t.

Joseph Clarke, collated 10 April, 1780, R. Tamlagh, Tyrone, n. t.

Hon. Percy Jocelyne, collated 25 Nov Tamlaght, Tyrone, n. t.

Wm. Campbell, collated 2 July, 1790, R. Tamlaght, Tyrone.

Isaac Ashe, collated 12 July, 1790, R. Tamlaght, n. t.

XII. Suggestions for Improvement, and Means for meliorating the Condition of the People.

The first great change in the condition of the lower classes, and the only permanent one, must arise from the exertions of their own industry; but as the industry of the individual is sometimes at a stand, from the deficiency of a small capital to give it scope; it would in many instances be attended with considerable advantage to them, if a fund from 50 to £200, according to the extent and population

of the parish, could be raised and lent out occasionally in small sums of £5 to be paid back at 1s. per month, commencing from the first month, and repaid with legal interest; this would be serviceable on many accounts: an acknowledgment of the loan should be taken on stamped paper, and security given for the payment, that there might be no danger of loss in capital. This should be lent by the clergyman himself, without any distinction of religion, at the recommendation of two respectable inhabitants. It sometimes happens that a man is kept idle, because he cannot purchase a loom; in that case he must hire one, if he can get one to hire, at a high rate; or he must work journeywork at low wages. Another man cannot purchase yarn for his loom, except in very small quantities, and consequently is kept in a state of idleness, till he can slowly scrape up as much as will fill his loom. The shoemaker is frequently at a loss for a trifle to purchase leather, and must at all events purchase it at a great disadvantage, when he buys it in small quantities. Another man who has been lately married, may have three or four acres of ground, but he cannot perhaps buy seed or a cow, and without these his land cannot be of much service to him. If this man could borrow four pounds, he could procure the former, and also a heifer, which would be a considerable relief by the time a little family came on him. But it is superfluous to dwell on the advantages which might result from such a fund.

But how is this fund to be raised? either by the landlord, the rector, or by two or three of the most wealthy of the parishioners: but as this mode may be

in all cases precarious, and in some impracticable, it could be laid on at vestry, when there was not any other heavy demand, if the clergyman was authorised to do so. It might be raised by lotteries; they could not be allowed for a better purpose; or possibly by an additional charge in proportion to the value of the parish on future incumbents. The peasantry are also frequently obliged to dispose of their grain early in the season, when the price is very low, to pay their rent, and afterwards have to purchase their meal in summer, at sometimes a double price. It would be a considerable advantage to them if granaries could be established in the neighbouring towns, in which they could obtain something like a fair price. During a late year, if the tenant paid only one pound per acre, he could, if he had the command of money at the cheap season, have purchased his grain cheaper than he could grow it. It is, as the writer has already observed, by their spinning and weaving, they support themselves and their families.

Tythes are considered as a considerable drawback on agriculture, but as a commutation seems to be attended with insuperable difficulties, it appears necessary to observe, that the complaint of the tenantry on this subject, is not really well founded, since if tythes were immediately abolished, the advantage would rest solely with the landlords, who would directly raise their rents in proportion, if not higher, as is manifest in these districts, which are exempt from them; so that if the clergyman lives amongst them, which is now in general the case, and endeavours as far as in his power to serve them,

which he has many opportunities to do, in various ways, it is evidently much more for their interest to pay their tythes to him, than to the landlords whom they seldom see. But at the same time, for the advantage of all parties it is further to be observed, that though we allow the clergy to employ as many proctors, tythe-farmers and managers as they please, (though the fewer the better,) yet it were to be wished that they were prevented from granting incumbency-bargains to any one, except the individual who paid the tythes; and as the clergy themselves who are in the magistracy, are prevented by act of parliament from acting as magistrates in any case in which tythes are concerned, through fear of the biass of partiality, it would be advantageous that the act were extended to all magistrates who have any connexion with tythes.

The incomes of the clergy, at least in this upper part of the diocese are on an average from £400 to £1500, and sometimes even £2000 a year—how greatly enabled must they be to relieve the distresses of their fellow creatures, and it may be fairly presumed, that they do relieve them, according to their different abilities.

APPENDIX.

TOWNLANDS OF TAMLAGHT.

No.	Name of Townland.	Derivation, and English Name.	Chief Proprietors.	Acres.
1	Tamlaght,	Burial ground,	Mr. Leckey and Gilebe.	144
2	Ruskey,	Rough huskey ground,	— Brown, Esq.	175
3	Ballydalley,	Daly's town,	Mr. Mulleaver.	210
4	Ballymoyle,	Naked or bald town,	Rowley Family.	260
5	Drunenard, and	Brier of the heights,	Marquis of Londonderry.	240
	Half Ballygark,	Oat-town,	Do.	92
6	Ballygonny,	Pedlar's town,	Messrs. Staples & Caulfield.	224
7	Coagh,	No obvious meaning,	G. L. Conyngham, Esq.	266
8	Aughavey,	Beech field,	— Mackay, Esq.	183
9	Mullinarory,	Ridge of delays,	G. L. Conyngham, Esq.	150
10	Urble,	No obvious meaning,	Do.	130
11	Drumnada,	Perhaps "Drumnada," Dog's ridge,	Mrs. Renn.	195
12	Drumconways,	Conway's ridge.	G. L. Conyngham, Esq.	196
			Total	2465

• Mr. Conyngham is the only Proprietor who resides,

No. XXIII.

UNION OF

TRACTON ABBEY,

(Diocese and County of Cork.)

BY THE REV. WILLIAM ALLEYN EVANSON, A. B.

I. *The Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

ST. Mary's Abbey of Tracton, was founded by the Mac Cartys in the year 1224 A. D. and supplied with Cistercians from the monastery of Alba Landa, at Maridun in Wales; the possessions were confirmed by Edward III. The Abbey of Tracton, which derived its name from the "Alba Tractus," or fair tract of country surrounding it, stood two miles south of Carrigaline; and the Abbots formerly sat in parliament. The Monks pretended to have a piece of the cross, which they said "Barry Oge" had purchased for them at a great price. This was so firmly believed, that on every Holy Thursday, vast multitudes resorted thither, to pay their devotions to the supposed relic. This abbey was granted by Queen Elizabeth, to Henry Guilford and Sir James Craig (March 20th. A. D. 1568), upon their paying before hand, the sum £7 15s. Sir James Craig assigned it to the Earl of Cork, who passed a patent to

the abbey (March 23d, 7th of James Ist.) and transferred it to his son, Francis Lord Shannon. The abbey is now (A. D. 1749) demolished.*

The parish of Tracton Abbey includes the parishes of Tracton, Kilpatrick, Kilmoney, Clontead, Kinnure, and Ballyfoyle, immemorially united. The rectory of Ballyfeard, and the impropriate rectories of Templebrakney and Ballinaboy, formerly belonged to the union, but they have been severed at a very remote period. It lies in the barony of Kinalea, Situation. diocese and county of Cork, and is bounded on the Boundaries north by the parishes of Templebreedy, Carrigaline, Ballyfeard, Ballymartle, and Rincurran; on the east by the Atlantic ocean; on the south by the parishes of Nohoval, Kilmanoge, and part of Rincurran. There are no natural boundaries, such as rivers or mountains, &c. &c. It extends from east Extent. to west about ten Irish miles; and from north to south about nine Irish miles, taking extreme points; and contains about 14,590 acres, English statute Contents. measure. The parish church lies nearly ten miles south-east of the city of Cork, and above six miles west of Kinsale.

The small river of Aun Buic, runs through part Rivers. of Kilmoney parish, and empties itself into an estuary of the sea at Carrigaline, but is not navigable. A stream also runs through the parishes of Clontead and Tracton, meeting a navigable estuary at Minane-bridge, three miles from the south of Ringabella bay, on the southern side of Cork harbour. The channel is here navigable for flats, as far as Minane-bridge.

* Smith's History of the County of Cork.

The parish of Kinnure, is bounded on the west by part of Oyster Haven harbour, where a few fishing boats and sand-lighters are employed. There is also a small creek at Robert's Cove, in Ballyfoyle parish, which affords occasional shelter to potatoe boats.

Bays. Ringabella bay, in Tracton parish, is impeded by a sand bank, which cannot be crossed at low water. With these exceptions, the coast is rocky and exposed, very unfavorable to fishing, which is engrossed by the hookers from Kinsale and Cork harbours.

Hills. There are no lakes or mountains; the high grounds are generally cultivated to the summits, which are extensive and level, but not favourable to pasture : these high grounds usually lie from east to west.

Trees. There are no woods, nor vestiges of any, save in the demesne of Gorligrenan, in Tracton parish, where a few native oaks and hazels are still to be found. There is no nursery, very few orchards, and still fewer plantations, in proportion to the vast extent of cultivated country. The Scotch and spruce firs, the larch, the alder, and the ash, appear to thrive best in this climate, which upon the high grounds is cold, in the valleys damp and unwholesome; but along the sea-shore, agreeable in temperature, and exceedingly healthful.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

Minerals. On the lands of Francis Hodder, Esq. of Ringabella, there is a vein of galena or sulphur of lead, intermixed with quartz and pyrites; this was worked some years since, but was abandoned after a small

quantity of ore had been obtained. An examination of this mine by a person properly qualified, would be a most desirable object; as in the event of its being productive, it would give employment to a number of people; and its proximity to the bay, would render the transporting of the produce, both easy and expeditious. The potters of Youghal consume a considerable quantity of this species of ore, in glazing their ware.

Slate abounds in the parish, and quarries are Slate wrought in several places; that at Roberts' Cove furnishes a large supply of good roofing slates, the principal defect of which is the smallness of the size; but this would be remedied by taking them from a lower part of the stratum, the upper portions being hardly ever found as compact in their structure, as those at a greater depth. The improved quality of the article, would more than compensate for the increase of expense incurred by the deep working. Large quantities of these slates are used in the city of Cork.

Near Minane-bridge in Tracton parish, was lately found that remarkable mineral substance called Wavelite, or Hydragillite, which, previous to this discovery, was deemed peculiar to one of the southern shires of England. It occurs in a hill, composed of flinty slate, and is found adhering to that rock, as well as in detached nodules of a spherical, or hemispherical form, which are composed of acicular four sided prisms, diverging from a common centre, and mostly adhering laterally to each other. These nodules vary in size from that of a pea, to nearly two

inches in diameter. The lustre is splendent; colour bluish green, passing into yellow, including all the intermediate tints; also greyish black, perfectly black, and white. Specific gravity 2. 7. This curious substance contains, according to Davy, no less than 26 per cent. of water, the remainder being alumine or pure clay, with a very small portion of fluoric acid. There is a fine series of splendid specimens of this hydragillite, and also of that from Devonshire, in the collection of minerals at the Cork institution.

Manure.

In Ringabella Bay, is procured fine sea sand, which is generally used as a manure, and contains a large portion of shells in a state of comminution, to which it owes its fertilizing quality. Large quantities of sand are also taken at Seagrove strand, for the same purpose, but the quality is inferior to that of Ringabella.*

The animal and vegetable tribes, are in no way peculiar to the parish. Game is rather scarce, excepting woodcock and snipe, owing to the vicinity of the sea, and the number of marshes in the parish.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

There are no public buildings, such as jails, hospitals, penitentiaries or work-houses, &c. &c. in this

* For the foregoing account the writer is indebted to the kindness of Mr. S. Wright, Mineralogist to the Cork Institution. The same gentleman assured him, that there is no reason to suppose the existence of coal in any part of the parish, he having examined the place in Ringabella Bay, where some attempts to detect that valuable substance had been ineffectually made. Nor is there any vein of lime-stone, nor any mineral springs.

parish; nor is there any collection of houses deserving even the name of village; nor any inns for the accommodation of travellers; but there are many houses for the sale of porter, which is chiefly supplied from the brewery of Messrs. Dunn and Co. Kinsale. At Robert's Cove, there was a signal tower, occupied by a lieutenant of the navy, with under officers; the establishment however has been reduced since the peace. There was also at the same place a revenue establishment, consisting of a surveyor and five boatmen, which has also been reduced within the last twelve months. A similar revenue establishment continues to exist at Oyster Haven, where there is a resident surveyor, Thomas Holmes, Esq. and five boatmen with a cockswain, all Protestants, provided with good houses, and exhibiting every appearance of comfort.

Signal
Tower.

The roads throughout this parish are generally bad, both in their line of direction, and in the materials of which they consist. They seldom exceed the breadth of twenty-one feet, and are very irregularly repaired, and at the making, usually cost about twenty shillings the statute perch. There are very few bridges in proportion to the number of streams, gullies, &c. &c. where they would prove useful or necessary.

Roads.

The principal seats are those of Sir Walter Roberts, Bart. Richard Galwey, and Richard Kenifeek, Esqrs. in Ballyfoyle parish; of Anthony Stoughton, George Hodder, Thomas Hungerford, and Henry O'Brien, Esqrs. in Kilpatrick parish; of William Daunt, and Francis Hodder, Esqrs. in Tracton

Gentle-
men's Seats

parish; of Michael Roberts, Esq. in Kilmoney parish; of Thomas Walton, Esq. in Kinnure parish; of Samuel P. Townsend, Major Edgeworth, and John Daly, Esqrs. in Clontead parish.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

Monastic Ruins.

There are ruins of churches in the burying grounds of Kilpatrick and Kinnure parishes, but no monuments or inscriptions of any note. The only vestiges of the once-celebrated abbey of Tracton, are a few fragments of pillars, some blocks rudely carved to represent human faces, and scattered quoin stones, which are found in the church yards, and

Castle.

walls of the present church. On the coast of Kinnure parish, were the ruins of a castle, built by the Barrys, who formerly possessed the barony of Kinalea, but the materials were used in constructing a signal tower at Barry's Head.

Raths.

A number of Danish forts or raths are found throughout the parish; they usually occupy the most elevated ground, and a regular chain of them may be traced communicating from the sea coast, with the city of Cork, and seldom exceeding two miles in distance from each other.

V. *Present & Former State of Population, Food, Fuel, &c.*

The families employed in agriculture, are generally careless of domestic comforts or conveniencies, and seldom in the habit of accumulating wealth.

Food.

The potatoe forms the exclusive article of food, and few enjoy the luxury of a cow, though the poorest

endeavour to have a few sheep, which yield a precarious supply of milk. The vale of Tracton is boggy, and still furnishes a small supply of turf, but insufficient for the population, and which will shortly be exhausted altogether. The turf is also of bad quality; it is dug out of pits, tempered like mortar, and made up into shapes with the hand. Bog timber is occasionally found at inconsiderable depths, and generally in an horizontal position. The labourers exist in a state of extreme wretchedness; lodged in miserable hovels, that rarely admit the light or the fresh air, and destitute of bedsteads or bedclothing, often without straw to keep them from the damp ground. Their clothing is also of the worst Dress description, and they seem to have an instinctive aversion from cleanliness. Frize manufactured in the country, and occasionally dyed blue in Cork, is the principal article of clothing for the farmers: close jackets with sleeves, and short breeches open at the knees, form the working dress, which is on Sundays exchanged for, or superadded to the long-skirted body coat, and the huge great-coat, equally admirable for defence against both heat and cold. The inhabitants seldom exceed the middle size, and are remarkably well shaped; their countenances vacant, or expressive of dissatisfaction. The dis- Diseases. eases chiefly prevalent, are such as arise from poverty of diet, cold, or want of cleanliness. The cow pock has had little success amongst them, even notwithstanding the mortality occasioned by the small pox, with which they obstinately persist in inoculating their children. Very few instances of longevity beyond eighty years have occurred to the writer's knowledge. There being no baro-

nial dispensary in the parish, the writer has endeavoured to supply the deficiency, by a private dispensary at the glebe house, upon a small scale, having made the theory of medicine his favourite branch of study for some years. He has kept a registry for the last three years, of the number and nature of the applications, and the following tabular view may not be uninteresting :

	1814	1815	1816
Affections of Bowels.....	52	85	50
—————Stomach.....	27	51	28
—————Lungs.....	23	93	39
Sores, Wounds, &c.....	20	97	110
Herpetic Eruptions, &c.....	10	21	35
Fevers and Agues.....	0	23	37
Lues.....	0	3	0
Dropsy.....	0	4	0
Trivial Cases.....	65	86	58
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total.....	197	463	357
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Total Number of cases in Three Years.....1017

At the Carrigaline dispensary, in the adjoining parish, the average number of patients is between five and six hundred annually, and the expences of the establishment, including surgeon's salary, value of house and ground, with cost of medicines, may amount to £150 per annum, which is supplied by subscription from the resident gentry, and a proportional assessment by the county grand jury at each assizes. By the experience of three years, the writer has ascertained the necessity for a similar establishment in the extensive parish of Tracton, and hopes that the gentlemen of that country will take the suggestion into serious consideration. The

distributing of medicines to his poor parishioners, which he commenced partly with a view to his own improvement, as well as from a sense of duty, has gradually become too great an encroachment upon his time, to be much longer tolerated. It may be calculated that the cost of medicines at a country dispensary, averages about one shilling for each patient. The writer has hitherto supplied the ordinary medicines solely at his own expense.

VI. *The Genius & Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.*

It is not easy in a parish of such extent, to estimate the character of its inhabitants, as to intellectual endowments and morals. As far as the writer can form an opinion, the poorer classes partake of the national characteristics, shrewdness and docility, in no ordinary degree. They are, however, too indolent to cultivate their minds, and they form their notions of morality, from the laws of society or the state, without any scrupulous regard to the laws of divine institution. The mornings of Sabbaths and holy days are, perhaps, devoted to the public services of religion; but the afternoons are invariably consumed in discussions at the ale-house, accompanied by the bagpipe and the fiddle; or in goaling parties by the young men in the fields, and the evenings regularly terminate in dancing and debauchery. It is not unusual with them to meet in clans or factions, for the avowed purpose of a battle, but this relic of the barbarous ages is less observable here, than in other parts of the county of Cork.

Genius and Disposition

The language generally spoken is a corrupted dialect of the Irish, differing in many respects from

Language.

Language. that spoken in Connaught, and in which our ancient bards and historians have recorded the exploits of our forefathers. The English language is, however, gaining ground, in consequence of its being taught in the schools, and of the frequent intercourse of the inhabitants with the towns of Kinsale and Cork.

The writer is not acquainted with any particular rites or ceremonies distinguishing them from the other Roman Catholics of Ireland. The great patron day is that of St. John, on the 24th of June; on the eve of which, innumerable fires are lighted on every hill, in the streets of every village, and at the meeting of every cross road. On the festive day itself, and for the subsequent week, myriads of persons of all ranks and ages, flock to the holy well of St. Zonogue, adjoining Kilmoney parish, where booths and tents are erected, and wondrous cures announced to be performed by this miraculous water. But of the history of this celebrated Saint, the writer must profess himself profoundly ignorant.

VII. *The Education and Employment of Children, &c.*

Education. In a country so generally cultivated, every individual of a family finds employment; hence, the inhabitants are little solicitous about learning. For a few summer months, such of the children as can be of no use at home, are sent to schools, where they acquire a scanty knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic. The former is an accomplishment usually neglected or forgotten as they advance in life, and become employed in husbandry. Of the two latter, they retain sufficient to enable them to sign their names, and transact their trifling accounts.

There are no schools which deserve notice. In Schools. each parish there is at least one, kept by a Roman Catholic master, and in which the children learn to read in such books as the parents may have, including every variety, from the "History of Reynard the Fox," to "Chesterfield's Rules of Politeness." The average number of children in each school may be fifty, boys and girls, and the rate of tuition varies from one to three shillings per quarter. The school houses are either the master's private dwelling, or a barn, lent for the purpose for a few months, by some farmer of unusual liberality. There is one Protestant schoolmaster, who is also the parish clerk of Tracton, the number of whose scholars averages forty children, and they attend during seven or eight months in the year. Hitherto, the vestry-room of the church, has served the purposes of a school-room; but it is in contemplation to build a school-house, or to have the vestry-room of the intended new church on a larger scale. The master is allowed ten guineas per annum from the parish, and one shilling per quarter from each scholar. The books used are those of the National Society for promoting education in Ireland, as also the New Testament, and the Church Catechism; the scholars being chiefly Protestant children.

The people of this parish are certainly sunk in the depths of ignorance; yet this is not altogether attributable to a disrelish for learning, or insensibility to its advantages. The method of instruction which prevails, is ill-calculated to infuse a taste for the cultivation of the mind, and the incessant labours of

the day, enfeeble the mental, as well as the bodily powers, and indispose for thought or conversation in the evenings. The resident gentry have collections of books, according to their tastes and circumstances, but the writer is not aware of any collection of Irish manuscripts, or other documents relating to Ireland.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

Adrowson. The union of Tracton Abbey (comprising the six parishes which have been named in the first section), is an inappropriate rectory, of which the Earl of Shannon is rector and impropriator. The spiritual duties (until the year 1808) were performed by the same curate, who officiated at the church of Ballinhassig; and divine service was only celebrated on alternate Sundays at Tracton, by a clergyman residing in Cork. In the year 1808, an arrangement was made by the Commissioners of First Fruits with the Earl of Shannon; in virtue of which his lordship agreed to divide the salary, (which had till then been paid to one curate), between two curates, one for Ballinhassig, and one (to be appointed) for Tracton parish. His lordship nominated me to the cure of Tracton, with a salary of twenty-five pounds per annum; and it was further agreed, that the Commissioners of First Fruits should allow each curate the additional salary of fifty pounds per annum; his lordship promising that he would double his allowance to each of the curates, (and thus establish them as perpetual curacies with one hundred pounds per annum to each), in case that the event of a tedious chancery suit, in which he had long been engaged against the

parishioners on the subject of tythes, should prove in his lordship's favour. This suit has continued for more than twenty years, and is not yet terminated, so that the income of the curacy of Tracton, still remains at seventy-five pounds per annum.

The present church of Tracton, though rebuilt Church. only fifty years ago, is in so very ruinous a state, that an application, accompanied by a plan and estimate, has been forwarded to the Commissioners of First Fruits, through the bishop of the diocese, praying a loan of seven hundred pounds, on the usual conditions, for building a new church. No answer has as yet been received to this application.

When the writer was appointed to the curacy, there was no glebe nor stated residence for the curate. By the advice, and with the approbation of the bishop, he procured a lease of twenty-four acres of ground, for the purpose of a glebe, for which the Commissioners of First Fruits paid a fine of £450 leaving it subject to a rent of twenty-nine pounds five shillings and sixpence yearly for ever, to be paid by the curate. They also granted a gift of £450 and a loan of £50 in addition, for the purpose of building a suitable glebe house and offices. Unhappily for him, the architect with whom he contracted for the execution of this work, either through knavery or incapacity, or both, left him the house unfinished, though he had undertaken to complete the plan of house and offices for the sum granted by the Commissioners of First Fruits. He was then necessarily obliged to complete the original plan, which when done, he found himself to have exceeded the

grant of the Board of First Fruits, by the sum of one hundred and thirty-six pounds, as appeared by the certificate of the commissioners appointed by the bishop of Cork. This sum, with the cost of necessary fences and improvements to the glebe ground, was so heavy a charge upon the income of a curacy, that application was made to the bishop and metropolitan to aid the writer in procuring remuneration either from the Board of First Fruits, or from the successors in the curacy. The bishop undertook to present a memorial of the circumstances to the Board of First Fruits, but without effect; and the metropolitan discouraged any further remonstrances, as being absolutely unavailing. Thus, upon a curacy of seventy-five pounds per annum, the writer has been unavoidably compelled to expend for the benefit of his successors, a sum considerably exceeding two hundred pounds sterling, without any recompense whatsoever.

Tythe.

The only parish in this extensive union in which a claim of tythe can be discovered to be made by the impropriator, is the parish of Kilpatrick. The following valuation for the year 1813, may be taken as an average valuation for the last ten years.

KILPATRICK PARISH.

174 Acres of potatoes at 12s..... ..	£ 106	8	0
95 Acres of wheat at 10s	47	10	0
74 Acres of oats at 8s..... ..	29	12	0
64 Acres of barley at 10s..... ..	32	0	0
75 Acres of meadow at 6s.... .	27	10	0
<hr/>			
482 Acres	£ 243	0	0
<hr/>			

There are two Roman Catholic chapels; one in Tracton, the other in Clontead parish, and a clergyman resident in each; there are no other places of religious worship.

The Protestant population is widely scattered Population throughout a large tract of country, and rather at the eastern extremity; the attending congregation varies according to the state of the weather, roads, &c. From five to eighty persons, the average attendance in seven years, has amounted to thirty per Sunday. The Roman Catholics do not appear to increase beyond the just ratio of population. Methodism has had so little success, that there is no account of a Methodist itinerant having visited any part of the parish for the last six years. The collections at the parish church are very trifling; but occasional assistance is derived from fines levied by the magistrates, donations, &c. &c. which has enabled the curate to distribute annually a supply of blankets and coarse clothing to the poor.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

The agriculture of this parish has been considerably improved within the last seven years, owing Modes of Agriculture. to the exertions of the Kinalea Farming Society, who have distributed within that period a vast number of the most approved agricultural implements as rewards to the judicious cultivators. The drill husbandry is now generally practised; Scotch ploughs, improved harrows, and spoke wheels, are commonly in use. The farmers not being feeders, find little demand for turnips, mangel wurzel, &c; but clover

and vetches are beginning to be extensively grown for the use of working cattle. The enclosures are not well attended to; indeed few Irish husbandmen study "the ornamental" in farming, and unfortunately, the scarcity of fuel in this country, affords irresistible temptations to the plunder of hedges and furze-fences. The Kinalea Farming Society have annexed as a condition to the attainment of any prize, that the claimant shall have planted within the year, a number of forest trees, proportioned to the size of his farm, or other circumstances. The lands on the sea coast, though naturally poor, yet usually produce a higher rent than in the interior, owing to the abundance and proximity of sea manure. The highest acreable rent of the best land in the parish, where the farm does not exceed fifty acres, is three pounds or guineas; middling quality land, from thirty to twenty shillings; and the worst, from fifteen to five shillings per acre. The farms rarely exceed one hundred acres, the average is about forty; hence there is an abundance of employment for the labouring classes. No services, except manual labour, are exacted. The cattle are of an inferior description; the horses small, and ill-shaped, mules scarcely known in the parish, and bullocks for draft only used by a few gentlemen. The sheep are of the common Irish breed, exceedingly hardy, but small and of little value; their wool is coarse, and universally manufactured at home by the farmers for clothing. The pigs are also very unprofitable, being lank-sided and long-limbed, and very difficult to fatten. The only manures made use of are sand, sea weed, and farm yard dung. Lime may be occasionally drawn in those parts of Kilmoney, Trac-

Rents,

Size of
Farms,

Stocks of
Cattle.

Manures.

ton, and Kilpatrick, which are contiguous to Carrigaline, but even there its use is by no means general. The burning of clay as a manure has been tried by one gentleman only, Mr. Hungerford of Nohoval, but his opinion of its efficacy has not yet been ascertained. There is no fair for the purchasing of grain throughout the parish; Kinsale and Carrigaline are the nearest markets for corn. The almanack fixes an annual fair at Tracton, but except an occasional sale of pigs at Minane bridge, no thing like a fair has been held in that place.

X. Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.

There is neither woollen, linen, nor cotton manufactory in the parish. Kelp might easily be made upon the coast, and the experiment was tried on a small scale, some years ago, by the late Edmond Kenifeck, Esq. but the result did not encourage him to perseverance. There are a few fishing boats at Oyster Haven, where large quantities of herrings were formerly taken in nets, but the vicinity of Kinsale precludes the hope of any permanent fishery being established here. The fishermen are amphibious animals, spending half their lives on land, in cultivating their little farms; they make venturous seamen, and the Kinsale pilots are held in the highest estimation.

XI. Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.

The only natural curiosities are the wild and highly picturesque rocks at Coosheen Creek, and the Doong

Point at Oyster Haven ; this last has been faithfully described by the Rev. Horace Townsend, in his " Statistical Survey of the county of Cork," as " a landslip pear Kinnure point, by which two or three acres have been detached from their original situation. Between them and the main land, is a chasm of frightful depth, but not continuous. Near the central part of the gulph, a passage of about five feet wide, preserves a communication between the main land and the dissevered portion. The sides of this perilous passage are perpendicularly steep to the depth of nearly an hundred feet. It has been doubted, whether this means of approach be ascribable to nature or art. Whoever considers the extreme difficulty of the work, and the trivial nature of the acquisition, will have no hesitation in ascribing it to the former."*

The writer has never heard of any remarkable occurrences in the history of the parishioners; during the most disturbed periods of the civil war, they were invariably distinguished for their loyal and peaceable disposition. The only eminent personage recorded as a native of the parish, (as far as I could learn,) was the late Surgeon Daunt† of Dublin, a gentleman of the highest professional ability, whose relatives possess considerable property, and reside in different parts of the parish.

* Statistical Survey of County of Cork. p. 569. (Dublin Edition 1810.)

† The daughter of this Gentleman, was married to the late Thomas Pleasants of Dublin, Esq.; who built at his own expense, the Tenter House, for the use of the woollen manufacturers, and the new Meath Hospital.

XII. *Suggestions for Improvement, and Means for meliorating the Condition of the People.*

Under this head, the principal object relating to the improvement of morals, is the promotion of education amongst the poor. There is a colony of Protestant children at Oyster Haven, which is much in want of a resident Protestant schoolmaster. Some years ago, the writer made an application to the collector of the customs at the port of Kinsale, to which Oyster Haven revenue establishment is subordinate, for the purpose of procuring his interference in their favour with the commissioners of customs. He suggested, that a schoolmaster should be appointed by them as a permanent officer of the establishment, with a salary payable like that of the boatmen, and a residence with a school room attached; the master to be a Protestant, and to be allowed a stated sum for the tuition of each pupil, and to be subject to such salutary restraint under the surveyor, as would ensure the faithful discharge of his duties. The application was discouraged; but he is firmly convinced that the adoption of some such measures is essentially necessary to the moral welfare of the revenue establishment at Oyster Haven, where thirty or more Protestant children are growing to maturity, without a prospect of obtaining the instruction so ardently desired for them by their parents.

The next point to be suggested is the necessity of a division of parishes in the union of Tracton. It is vastly too extensive for one clergyman with one church; and the man who would perform its duties

conscientiously, should possess an herculean frame of mind and body. The present church of Tracton may well suffice for the parishes of Tracton, Kilpatrick, and Ballyfoyle, the remotest parts of each not being distant from it above three miles. If these three parishes were united as one, a clergyman residing at the glebe house would be nearly central to his parishioners, and fulfil his duties to his complete satisfaction.

In the parish of Kinnure, there are thirteen Protestant families, the nearest residence of whom is about five miles from their parish church at Tracton. In fact they never visit it; the church of Nohoval being two miles nearer to them. Now if Kinnure were united to Kilmanoge (which is now a part of the parish of Nohoval), and a church for the union built about the point of junction, the inhabitants would enjoy a facility of attendance upon public worship in the worst seasons of the year. Kilmoney parish ought to be attached to Carrigaline, from the church of which it is scarcely one mile distant, while it is no where less than three miles from Tracton church. Clontead parish would require a church to itself; it is in most parts four miles distant from Tracton, three from Kinsale, and three from Ballymartle churches.

The revival of the Irish language has lately attracted much of the public attention, and it appears to be generally acknowledged, that a language exclusively spoken by one-third of the population of Ireland will never become extinct, and deserves to

be cultivated from its connection with national literature. From mature consideration, the writer is convinced by reflection and experiment, that the civilization of the lower classes would increase with inconceivable rapidity, if their native language were taught and read in the schools. Some gentlemen in Cork of the Roman Catholic persuasion have warmly united with their Protestant brethren, in the furtherance of this desirable object, and it were much to be wished, that the Society for promoting National Education in Ireland, would make enquiry into the result of experiments already tried (in the province of Connaught especially), and bestow upon a subject of such importance, its merited consideration.

As far as the temporal comforts of the poor, and the interests of agriculture in this parish are concerned, the most obvious improvements are the establishment of coal and corn stores at Ringabella, Robert's Cove, and Oyster Haven; as also a baronial dispensary, for which the best situation is somewhere about the glebe. Every country dispensary should, if possible, have a few beds attached to it, for the reception of fever patients and hospital cases; the reason is obvious.

These are the principal topics which occur to the writer at present, and he would feel sincere satisfaction, if their suggestion were likely, at any future period, to prove beneficial to the parishioners.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

NAMES OF TOWNLANDS, &c. &c.

1. TRACTON PARISH.

No.	Names of Ploughlands.	Pls. G.	Acres.	Chief Proprietors.
1	Bardoe,	1 0	360	Earl of Shannon.
2	Grannag,	1 0	360	
3	Tubrid and Minase,	1 0	360	
4	{ Balleenavragg and } { Anna Corriga, }	2 ... 0	720	
5	Deconavragg,	1 0	480	
6	Knocknamanna,	1 3	600	
7	Farren Brien,	2 1	1000	F. Hodder, Esq.
8	Farren-sten,	0 1	50	
9	Springfield,	0 1	30	
10	Rungabellia,	1 6	540	
Ploughlands..		11 0	4500	

2. KILPATRICK PARISH.

No.	Names of Ploughlands.	Pls. G.	Acres.	Chief Proprietors.
1	Kilpatrick,	0 6	240	Mr. Conron.
2	Fountainstown,	1 ... 4	528	Mr. Hodder.
3	Willow Hill,	0 9	360	Mr. Warren.
4	Gortgrenagh,	1 0	480	Mr. Stoughton.
5	Brownstown,	0 4	160	Mr. Drost.
6	Ballynacreeganig-more,	0 4	160	Doctor Cochlan.
7	Ballynacreeganig-beg,	0 3	90	Mr. Stoughton.
8	Knockalter,	0 9	360	Mr. Evanston.
		5 ... 2	2288	

3. BALLYFOYLE PARISH.

No.	Name.	Pls. G.	Acres.	Chief Proprietors.
1	Ballyvoilag,	0 11	220	Mr. Charleston.
2	Ballyfoyle,	0 7	210	Sir Walter Roberts, Bart.
3	Rengrove,	1 0	402	Mr. Galway.
4	Kilmoren,	0 9	370	Sir Walter Roberts, Bart.
5	Ballydoeang,	0 7	165	Mr. Kenilick.
6	Renees,	0 6	180	Mr. Stoughton.
7	Ballydoonstown,	1 0	360	Sir Walter Roberts.
8	Ballyliskin,	0 2	80	Lord Riversdale.
		5 6	2287	

No. 1. (continued.)

NAMES OF TOWNLANDS, &c. &c.

4. KINNURE PARISH.

No.	Name.	Plow. G.	Acres.	Chief Proprietors.
1	Kinnure,	2 1	750	{ Mr. Walton.
2	Annafield,	0 6	150	
3	Bellinavullagh,	{ 1 0	380	Lord Middleton.
4	Knocknaburrag,			
5	Doonrushig,	0 2	60	Mr. Holmes.
6	Curra,	1 0	350	Mr. Crane.
7	Bannagoganig,	0 1	30	{ Lord Riversdale.
8	Knocknanove,	0 6	150	
9	Killeigh,	0 2	60	Mr. Kaelles.
		5 6	1980	

5. CLONTEAD PARISH.

No.	Name.	Plow. G.	Acres.	Chief Proprietors.
1	Ballinacurra,	1 0	360	Mr. Bleazby.
2	Coolvallinane-more,	1 0	360	Mr. Rochfort.
3	Coolvallinane-less,	0 2½	90	Do.
4	Knocknabrian,	0 2½	90	Do.
5	Mulleen Dunnee,	0 4	120	Do.
6	Lisnacilla,	0 5	150	Mr. Jeffords.
7	Scartafehunig,	0 5	150	Do.
8	Laccanerinmeen,	0 9	270	Do.
9	Ballinrustick,	0 7	210	Mr. Rochfort.
10	Thomastown,	0 3	90	Do.
11	Mitchelstown,	0 7½	225	Mr. Townsend.
12	Palace-town,	0 4	123	Do.
13	Ardmartin,	0 2½	75	Mr. Bullen.
14	Barinavard,	0 2½	75	Mr. Rochfort.
15	Curninane,	0 2	60	
16	Butlerstown,	0 1	30	Lord Banden.
17	Knockrobbin,	0 6	150	Mr. Daly.
		7 3½	2655	

6. KILMONEY, contains three Ploughlands, 1000 Acres, Lord Shannon's Estate.

No. 2.

SUMMARY VIEW.

No.	Name.	Pls. G.	Acres.
1	TRACTON,	11 0	4500
2	KILPATRICK,	5 2	2338
3	BALLYFOYLE,	5 6	2687
4	KINNCOR,	5 6	1980
5	CLONTYD,	7 3½	2655
6	KILMONEY,	3 0	1000
	Ploughlands....	37 5½	14500

Each Ploughland contains twelve Gores, but the number of Acres in each Ploughland is arbitrary.

No. 3.

CROPS IN 1816, IN THE PARISH OF TRACTON.

	ACRES.		ACRES.
Wheat, - - -	607	Brought over, -	2577
Barley, - - -	398	Pasture, -	1362
Oats, - - -	387	Reg. - -	233
Potatoes, - - -	167	Fallow, -	30
Flax, - - -	8	Road, &c. -	298
Vetches, - - -	23		
Clover, - - -	10	Total ..	4500
Meadow, - - -	159		
	2577		

No. 4.

AVERAGE VALUE OF STOCK.

	£	s.	d.
Best Horses,	15	0	0
Inferior Horses,	5	0	0
Mules,	0	0	0
Best Black Cattle,	7	0	0
Calves,	1	10	0
Best Sheep,	1	0	0
Inferior Do.,	0	18	0
Mogs,	1	0	0

No. 5.

PRICES OF PROVISIONS AT KINSALE.

	s.	d.	s.	d.	
Beef,.....from	0	3	to	0	8 Per lb.
Mutton,....from	0	3	to	0	6 Ditto.
Pork,.....from	0	2	to	0	4 Ditto.
Fowls,.....from	0	8	to	1	0 Per couple.
Geese,.....from	1	0	to	1	8 Each.
Turkeys,....from	2	6	to	3	4 Per couple.
Ducks,.....from	1	8	to	2	0 Ditto.
Flour,.....from	2	0	to	4	0 Per 14 lb. (stone.)
Oatmeal,....from	18	0	to	0	0 Per cwt.
Potatoes,....from	0	4	to	0	8 Per 21 lb. (weight.)
Milk,.....from	0	2	to	0	3 Per quart.
Butter,.....from	0	8	to	1	0 Per lb. of 14 ounces.
Eggs,.....from	0	5	to	0	8 Per dozen.

No. 6.

AVERAGE PRICES OF CORN FOR LAST 3 YEARS.

Wheat,..30s. per bag of 20 stone, (two hundred and a half weight.)

Barley,..30s. per barrel of 30 stone.

Oats,.... 25s. per barrel of 33 stone.

No. 7.

TRACTON PARISH REGISTER.

Year.	Marriages.	Baptisms.		Deaths.
		Males.	Females.	
1816	2	1	1	0

No. XXIV.

PARISH OF

TINTERN.

(*Diocese of Ferns, and County of Wexford.*)

BY THE REV. WILLIAM ARCHDALL, CURATE.

I. *Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

TINTERN, otherwise called Kinna, is situated in the barony of Shelburn, county of Wexford and diocese of Ferns. It is bounded on the north by the union of Ross; on the south by the bay of Bannow and parish of Fethard; on the east by the river Blackwater; and on the west by the parish of St. James or Dunbrody. The parish is divided into thirty-two townlands, and is about seven miles long and three broad: about one-half of it is arable, and the remainder meadow and pasture.

The Tintern river, which, rising in the bog of Rathumney, empties itself in the bay of Bannow and the Blackwater, which rising at the rock of Carrickburne, empties itself into the same bay, runs from north to south through the parish. Here is neither

mountain nor remarkable hill. The parish is well planted, but has no woods: turbaries are in abundance. The climate is healthy, occasioned most probably, by the dryness of the soil.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

Some few quarries of building stone are worked here. We have abundance of sea-sand, which is Sea-sand. used for manure with good effect. The bay of Bannow produces plenty of shell and other fish. It is remarkable for large cockles and oysters; the cockles are carried by hundreds of jolters as far as Kilkenny. Preparations are now making for forming a salmon weir on an improved plan, introduced by some Scotchmen, with much good effect, into this neighbourhood; but what the success may be, cannot be even conjectured.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

Tintern is but a small village, from which a road Village. leads from south to north to Ross; the other road which intersects the parish is that leading from Wexford to Duncannon fort and to Fethard, from east to west. The gentlemens' seats are Mr. Colclough's, Gentlemen's Seats. with a demesne and plantation on a very large scale; Mr. B. B. Colclough's at St. Kearnes and Tamlaght on the bay of Bannow, and Mr. Mac Cord's at Curraghmore, on the left hand from Tintern to Ross, about nine miles from the latter.

A bridge has been lately built over the Blackwater Bridge. which promises to be of considerable advantage, as

a dangerous pass over an arm of the sea, called the Sear, will be avoided by means of it; and the communication between this part of the country, and the town of Wexford, rendered more easy.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

Monastic
Ruins.

Tintern Abbey is a very perfect ruin, and part of it has been modernized into a residence by the Colclough family, to whom it was granted on the suppression of monasteries, together with the church lands. This abbey is supposed to have been founded about the year 1200, by the Earl of Pembroke, who brought a colony of Cistercian Monks, from Tintern Abbey in Monmouthshire.

Raths.

Almost every townland in the parish has the ruins of a church or castle, particularly Clonmines, which contains the ruins of a church and seven castles. The Danish raths or forts are numerous. In the parish church at Tintern may be seen an ancient monument of Sir Anthony Colclough.

V. *Present & Former State of Population, Food, &c.*

Population.

The inhabitants, about four thousand in number, are chiefly employed in agriculture, and some in the linen manufacture, for which there are two bleach yards in the parish. They are in very comfortable

Food.

circumstances. Their food is potatoes, oatmeal, with pork, milk, and butter. Their general appearance is robust and healthy, their dress neat and cleanly.

Longevity.

They are in general long lived: there have been many instances of people exceeding the age of 100

years. Mrs. Hannah Kidd of Coolroe, was buried on the 7th of May, 1805, aged 98; and Elizabeth Browne of Curraghmore, died at the age of 109; there are several persons now living of the age of 90, and a man of the name of Connors resides at Taylorstown, who is upwards of 100, and in wonderful health; he is in perfect possession of all his faculties, and possessed of the same sharpness, and would make a bargain as well as at any period of his life; his eye sight is a little impaired.

VI. *The Genius & Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.*

The poorer classes are intelligent and well disposed. They speak the English language universally. Almost every townland has its peculiar Patron and Patron-day; but St. Martin, whose day is kept on the 11th of November, is considered as the Patron of the whole Parish; on which day numbers of people perform pilgrimages to a Well dedicated to him; and there is also a large fair or market held on that day for which no patent has ever been granted.

The people have many customs, some of which, Customs, may be worth remarking—such as wearing wisps of straw in the brogues, calling women by their maiden names, and where there are illegitimate children, calling them after the mother. They are Superstitions. addicted to superstitious practices, and universally believe in apparitions: some believe in a warning voice, which is said to be heard when any of Colclough Family are near death. They always kill some animal on the Eve of St. Martin's day; the very poor people kill a cock or hen. They are strict in not

violating their saints' days, and would as soon work on a Sunday as on any of them. They never spin either wool or flax on the afternoon of Saturday, or the eve of any holiday—and many will not yoke a plough after twelve o'clock on Saturday.

VII. *Education & Employment of their Children, &c.*

Schools.

The course of Education is, Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic. Children as soon as they are able, are employed in agriculture, unless they go to sea, for which many have a predilection. A number of small schools are dispersed through the parish; but the school at Tintern, is endowed by Mr. Colclough, the impropiator. The quarterly salary in these schools, is from two to five shillings British. The scholars are about 700 in number. No Public Library, nor any collection of Irish MSS. are to be found in this parish. It would be very difficult, almost impossible, to make the distinction between males and females, as very few attend in the winter; but the general proportion of males, is as 4 to 1. The school-house at Tintern is very comfortable, and well adapted to its purpose.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, &c.*

Advowson.

Tintern, which is under the Patronage of Cæsar Colclough, Esq. of Tintern Abbey, is episcopally united to Clonmines and Owenduffe. The parish Church is at Tintern. The Roman Catholics have two Chapels. Here, there is neither Glebe, nor Glebe-house, the whole of the parish being Church land, and granted to the Colclough Family, as before

mentioned. The tythes are in general set by the ^{Tythes.} impropriator Mr. Colclough, with the lands, and are valued at about a shilling per acre. Tintern is an impropriate curacy, and as the lands are set tythe free in general, the Curate's stipend is paid in part by the board of first fruits, and in part by Mr. Colclough, who has the tythes of the whole parish. There are some other proprietors.

IX. *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

Drill husbandry is practiced, and artificial grasses sown here ; farm work is done by horses, and the implements are in no ways different from those in common use throughout the country—no oxen are used—few dairies are kept in the parish. The best land, if set ^{Rents of} within three years, would bring about £2 5s. 6d. ; ^{Land.} the middling, about £1 2s. 9d. ; and the worst, about 15s. 0d. per acre. Labourers' wages, are from 1s. per ^{wages of} day without diet, and 8d. per day with diet. ^{Labour.} Sea sand and lime, brought principally from Loftus-hall, is used for manure, in addition to that used on the farm.

A Market at Tintern, weekly ; and two Fairs, one on the 12th of May, and the other on the 21st of September—three at Nash, the 24th of June, the 15th of August, and 20th of November.

Mr. Colclough's estate, is set from 14 shillings to ^{Fair.} a guinea per acre, the average is 19s 6d. : no duties of any kind, or agent's fees are reserved in the leases, or indeed imposed in any way. The only clauses in the leases, are not to alienate ; and tenants are obliged

to whitewash their houses once a year inside and outside, and to plant a small orchard.

X. *Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, Navigation, &c.*

Manufac-
tures.

There is a great number of the common trades, but the only manufactures carried on, are those of linen and woollen; in the former little is done, except for home consumption, though we have some remarkably good diaper weavers, and the parish is well adapted for the linen business, as flax grows well, and is already cultivated to some extent. The woollen trade is confined to the making of flannel, and is more thought of as employment for women in winter nights, than as a regular branch of trade.

Naviga-
tion.

The Bay of Bannow is navigable for ships of 150 tons burthen, and if there was a quay built, for which there is a convenient site at Saltmills, considerable trade might be carried on; this, Mr. Colclough, who has lately returned from a captivity of many years in France, proposes to do. There are two boulting mills in the parish, both on Mr. Colclough's estate, one at Galetown, on the Blackwater, the other at Tintern, the produce of which might be shipped at the Bay of Bannow; but now depends principally, if not entirely on home consumption. The two bleach-yards mentioned, are both on the same estate.

XI. *Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.*

Under the above head, the writer cannot find any thing worthy of remark. The good conduct of the inhabitants, may be attributed to that of the land-

lords, than whom, better do not exist ; it would be invidious to mention one, where all are worthy of praise.

XII. Suggestions for Improvement, and Means for meliorating the Condition of the People.

The best means for meliorating the situation of the people would, in my opinion, be the establishing of manufactures on a large scale. At present, the farmers divide their ground among their children, who again in turn divide it among theirs, so that at last it is subdivided into extremely small farms, which are barely sufficient for the maintenance of the family, who have little or nothing for market, and of course they are unable to pay a good rent. The writer thinks, a farmer could afford to pay a much larger rent for 30 acres of ground, than for 10, and so in proportion ; the more ground the more rent, but not to carry the matter to excess, as overgrown farms have their bad effect. There cannot be a stronger proof of the necessity for introducing some additional means of employment, than that the inhabitants of this parish, paying only the small rent of seventeen shillings and sixpence per acre for their ground, tythe free, and fuel gratis, have not much to spare ; if on the contrary the farms were enlarged, and a proportion of the people employed in manufactures, all would be benefited ; at present, there is no home market for the produce of the soil, and when the extraordinary demand produced by the war ceased, the prices have fallen so low, as to threaten destruction to the landed interest.

APPENDIX.

TOWNLANDS IN THE PARISH OF TINTERN.

No.	Name of Townlands.	Derivation and English Name.	Chief Proprietors,	Acres.	Houses.	Population.
1	Tintern,	Meaning not ascertained.	Mr. Colclough.	350	33	210
2	Castletownhouse, and } Ballygarrett, }	Meaning obvious.		280	22	132
3	St. Kearns,	Garretstown.		300	27	162
4	Saltmills,	Meaning obvious.		160	21	126
5	Garrycullen,	Do.		250	14	84
6	Milltown.	Callen's Garden.		100	9	54
7	Dooroughty,	Meaning obvious.		70	8	48
8	Carraghmore,	House of Devotion, bell or Church.		200	16	100
9	Kinna,	Probably "Carraghmore" great morass or heath.		180	18	116
10	Dunmain,	Meaning not ascertained.		400	20	129
11	Ballernane,	Probably "Dunmaine," Main's Fatness or Fort.		280	24	150
12	Booley,	Streamstown, in correct Irish "Baile-shruthain," <i>sh</i> and <i>th</i> not sounded in speaking.		600	43	261
13		Cow-house, or Dairy.				

TOWNLANDS IN THE PARISH OF TINTERN CONTINUED.

No.	Name of Townlands.	Derivation and English Name.	Chief Proprietors.	Acres.	Houses.	Population.
14	Yoletown,	Meaning obvious.	} Mr. Colclough.	300	16	116
15	Balleypackbeg,	Little Sack-town.		130	14	86
16	Taulaugh,	Burial ground.		125	14	89
17	St. Leonards,	Meaning obvious.		220	17	110
18	Coolroe,	Red Back or Ridge.	} Marquis of Ely.	200	18	113
19	Ballycullane,	Cullenstown.		150	18	119
20	Baltistown,	Meaning obvious.		202	20	120
21	Burkstown,	Do.		164	12	80
22	Clonmines.	Probably "Clonmine," or "Cluainmin" a handsome plain, or fine retreat.	Mr. Annesly.	632	40	245
23	Arklow,	Hightstone, in correct Irish "Ardcloch."	} Mr. Stoughton. Mr. O'Tarrel.	42	12	79
24	Ratherenny,	Fort of Prayer.		499	34	204
25	Nash,	Meaning not ascertained.		636	38	238
26	Garryduff,	Blackgarden.		181	13	82
27	Cloonagh,	Retreat, or retired place.	} Mr. Leigh. Miss Rossiters. John Bruen, Esq. Marquis of Ely.	199	10	65
28	Thinacarrig, and }	Fire Rock.				
29	Rathnagara, }	Fort of the friends, from "Rath" a fort, and "Car" or "Cara" a friend.		710	40	251
30	Balleytarsney,	A prostrate town.		225	10	63
31	Ballygarvan,	Brantown.	} John Bruen, Esq. Marquis of Ely.	376	19	114
32	Taylorstown,	Meaning obvious.		268	13	80
33	Fullerstown,	Do.		110	6	38
Total.....				8537	620	3864

No. XXV.

PARISH OF

TULLAROAN,

(County of Kilkenny, and Diocese of Ossory.)

BY THE REV. ROBERT SHAW, A. M.

I. *Name of the Parish, Situation, Extent, &c.*

Derivation. **T**HE name of this parish is derived from "Tulla" a hill, and perhaps from "Rawn" a rivulet; an etymology not more direct and simple, than strikingly descriptive of its local character. A picturesque variety of surface, enlivened by the silver lines of numerous streams, beautifully attest the strict propriety of it's original designation.

Name. According to the uniform orthography of the earlier records, "Tullaghrohan" must be considered the correct name, though, *euphoniæ gratia*, Tullaroan or Grace's Parish is now become the more general

Situation. appellative. This interesting little district is comprehended in the extensive cantred of Grace's country, the whole of which, during a period of some centuries, belonged to the Grace family. Raymond le Gros, from whom this family and country are denominated, is well known in Irish history as the bulwark of early

English power, as the brother-in-law of Earl Strongbow, and as the first viceroy of this kingdom. He was also lord of Lereton and of a great territory in the County of Wexford. These circumstances receive a moral interest from the reflection that within the boundaries of such vast possessions, his descendants and name are at this day only found to exist in the obscure and fallen sphere of an humble peasantry.

Tullaroan forms part of the union of Callan, and is situated in the Barony of Cranagh. The eastern Boundaries boundary lies within four miles of the city of Kilkenny, joining the liberties; its western boundary is the Munster River, a small stream that divides the Counties of Kilkenny and Tipperary, which runs along it for 3 miles; on the north-east it is bounded by the parish of Ballynamona, on the north by Tubrid, on the north-west by Killahy and the Caranagh, on the south by Kilmanagh, on the south-east by Ballycallan. Its north latitude is $52^{\circ} 14'$; west longitude from Greenwich, $7^{\circ} 35'$. Its extent from east to west, Extent. is about 6 miles; from north to south about 5 miles. It is divided into two parts, first Tullaroan and Divisions. second Tullaroan, containing 29 Townlands, which consist of 7839 acres, or $12\frac{1}{4}$ square miles.

The parish consists of a cluster of hills sur- Climate. rounding a large vale, in which a number of smaller vales meet. It is more subject to showers than the flat country, yet it is not remarkably wet, but on the contrary as dry as hilly grounds can be, and particularly healthy: it is cold, but not damp, and there has been a striking proof lately of the salubrity of the air; which is, that it is the only parish in the county, that has escaped the ravages of the prevailing typhus,

which raged in all the surrounding parishes ; nor has there been any other disease prevalent here.

Rivers.

A small brook runs almost through the centre of the parish, within which it rises, in the northern boundary, and meeting a number of tributary streams from all the hills that surround the vale, flows on through the parish of Kilmanagh in a southern direction to the King's River at Callan. About a mile above the parish of Kilmanagh it becomes a trout brook, perhaps one of the best in the county for herring-sized trouts during the spring and autumn months. The Munster River, which bounds it on the west, although as large, has scarcely a trout in it.

Mountains

Properly speaking there are no mountains, but three-fourths of the parish consist of hills, that approach to mountains, which enclose an uncommon fine vale of rich pastureable and meadow ground, opening to the south on the rich and well planted country that lies between it and the southern mountains of the Counties of Kilkenny and Tipperary, with Slievenaman rising majestically to the view, at about 7 miles distance. The landscape of the parish is as good as it is possible for a piece of ground without wood and water to be ; there is a great diversity of surface in the vale, round these the hills beautifully undulate ; between these, a number of small valleys run into a great vale, and which if planted, would make a very fine appearance : the hills are all capable of cultivation to the top, and are part of a branch of hills which run in a western direction, from this parish into the County of Tipperary for several miles. The vale consists of a fine aluminous soil, capable of the highest improvement, especially from the number of streams that run through calcareous beds : the calca-

reous earth that is to be found in many parts of it, must necessarily cause a great mixture of carbonate of lime, which is the most productive soil that can be found in this country. The soil of the hills consists of argillaceous clay and peat, every acre of which lime and marl could reclaim.

There are no bogs or moors in the parish, properly Bogs. speaking: there is a little boggy ground scattered here and there, and moory ground, all easily reclaimable by draining and liming, &c. The streams all arise from springs in the hills, and although they are very much swollen after rain, yet the highest floods subside in a day, as all streams do, where there is not bog and moor as reservoirs, whose slow trickling discharge keeps up the body of the water; this makes the streams more advantageous to the irrigator, as they contain purer impregnations for grass, than the water that flows from moor or bogs, where it is more stagnant.

We have no woods, orchards, nurseries, or planta- Woods. tions in the parish. Many parts of the vales were once thickly planted, and there were some woods round the Castle of Courtstown, the former residence of the Grace Family, and from whence their palatinate title of Baron of Courtstown was derived, but every tree has been cut down since the forfeiture in the time of James II.: a few of the old thorn hedges remain, with some ash trees which have grown up since that period. Every kind of tree would flourish here particularly well, from the mountain fir, to the oak of the vale; and were the proprietors of the estates to plant the hills in large enclosures, they would soon find them a valuable addition to their properties. It is much to be lamented that the persons who cut down

Woods. the woods, did not cospse them immediately; the grounds of these are now the most unproductive parts of the townlands; they not only would have preserved the beauty of the country, but likewise a species of property, the most valuable their estates could produce. It is a melancholy thing to see hundreds of acres of moory sedgy wet ground, in its present state scarcely worth 3 shillings an acre, lying as it were waste; which if coppiced when the woods were cut, would now be covered with the finest oak. Ireland has suffered greatly, and is still suffering by this neglect of coppicing and fencing well the woods which have been cut down, proceeding from the extreme inattention of gentlemen to the local circumstances of their properties: had this been attended to, those woods would now be able to meet many incumbrances, for which estates have been sold; and being still copped, would continue a growing source of property, that would from time to time meet the demands of many families, and preserve to Ireland that improved and picturesque beauty, for which she might rival any nation; for, if well planted, no country possesses a more beautiful variety of surface, mountain, vale, glen, and water.

II. *Mines, Minerals, &c.*

Coal. Through the whole of this parish there are indications of coal and culm, particularly the latter, which has been found in every place where it was sought for; and were the landlords to open pits and establish them on some regular system, they would be amply repaid, and greatly serve the tenants, who will carry on such a work properly.

The hills are parts of a chain running south-west

for about 9 or 10 miles, all with the same strata of Coal. rocks, same soil, same appearance of plants, &c. In the chain, about a mile from the western boundary of the parish, there are very extensive coal and culm pits, at Slievardagh, worked by Mr. Langley the proprietor: these parts supply all the country within some miles with coal and culm, and the appearances here promise good culm at least, and perhaps coal. Attempts have been made by some farmers in a few places to get coal and culm, but from the manner in which they sunk the pits, they were soon swamped, or they fell in from the nature of the ground. Pits must be liable to swamp, unless there are regular drains cut, and the ground chosen where the fall favours drawing off the water, and the back ground is not liable to flood. D. Scully, Esq. who lately purchased the townlands of Ramakan, Gurtragap, and Keil, has allowed his tenants to open some pits on those lands; five have been opened, and two are at present working, but in such a manner, that little advantage can accrue from them, and no discovery of consequence can be made. They are worked without any description of machinery, not even a windlass to draw up the culm, or the water buckets, or rather pails, with which they endeavour to take away the water, but both water and culm are handed up a ladder by persons, 12 or 14 feet. The strata are, peat 10 inches, rock 7 feet, a silicious argillite, thickly impregnated with mica, and about a foot of hard ferruginous schistus, then smut, and after a few feet, culm and smut—but they have not sunk deep enough to ascertain its quantity or quality. The veins enlarge as they go down, and dip into the mountain in an angle of about 23 degrees; hence they cannot be worked without regular colliers and machinery—

whether if the coal was found, it would be worth working as coal, is a matter which must be determined by experience. The veins should be at least 15 inches thick to repay the labour, while the Slievardagh and Castlecomer collieries are so near, where the veins are from twenty to thirty-one inches thick. But coal with culm would be most valuable to the farmers, for burning lime and firing, for culm made into balls, with and without clay, is the only firing of the farmers of those hills: this is worth the serious consideration of the landlords, and the writer hopes the day is approaching, when both landlords and tenants will see the advantage of searching for, and applying all the resources and rich materials with which our country abounds, and which are sadly neglected, while so large a portion of our population is starving for want of employment.

Limestone. There is no vein or quarry of limestone in the parish, but the beds of all the streams are full of limestones, from a pound to two ton weight, of the very best quality: they are to be found likewise in spots where there is any calcareous sand or marle. Few of the farmers think of collecting and burning them, although if sought for, the writer is convinced there is a quantity sufficient for all their wants, that could be collected with very little trouble or expense; but the farmers plead want of time, we should rather say of system, which is the sad want of all this class.

Minerals. The great stratum of rock which runs through the whole chain of the hills is ferruginous argillite (the general stratum which attends the coal districts of this county) it comes to the surface in most of the hills, and gives the argillaceous character to the soil. In a few places there are quarries of silicious schistus

which sometimes breaks into flags, veined with quartz, *Minerals.* feldspar and a dull rock crystal, but mica is thickly spread in all the laminæ of the rock : there are likewise some spots of silicious argillite, siderocaleite, and black slate : in whatever rock silica is to be found, quartz and mica are abundant : the quarries are merely opened for building-stone for walls and cabins.

The lime stone stratum begins at the southern boundary of the parish, and passes through Kilmanagh to Callan for several miles in length and breadth : between this stratum and the argillite of the hills a vein of calcareous earth runs for three miles from east to west about half a mile in breadth : some siderocaleite rocks and siliciferous argillite occupy this district, which is likewise found in every place where there is calm.

The calcareous sand in this district has not been much sought for or used ; what the writer has generally seen is not very strong ; it is too much mixed with clay : it ferments languidly with marine acid, about four or five hundred loads are put to the acre where it is used. There is marl and calcareous sand to be found in many parts of the argillaceous district, and from a specimen the writer saw, some is excellent, but the farmers do not seem to know the value of it, and want exertion to look for it. The specimen the writer refers to was found by accident in making a ditch ; the farmer put it on a couple of fields, and this year had the second crop of oats ; it was the middle of the mountain, and the writer never saw finer oats : the pit was swamped, and he made no exertion to clear it. The writer is convinced that

Minerals. many such beds could be found, and better in the argillaceous district than in the calcareous, as in the first it lies in small beds, and is less mixed, and were it sought for and used, it would act on some grounds better than lime, and its effects would be more lasting. The farmers think lime much better, and it is more according to the routine of work, to draw it from the neighbouring kilns, and hence the marl and sand on their grounds lie neglected.

There are no mineral springs in the parish. The writer has seen in some drains the water deeply coloured with ochre and iron, which was held in solution by sulphuric acid, and lay in a decomposed state on the surface; but there has been no opportunity of examining or knowing the fossil or mineral state of the hills, although perhaps affording much matter for research.

Plants. The plants and grasses are such as are generally found in hills and vales; the *ranunculus flammula* or spearwort is the predominant plant of the hills, as it is in all the coal districts. It would be tedious to recount the various other plants which are to be found, such as iris along the streams, *digitalis*, &c. in the ditches, orchis, &c. in the meadows, wild geranium, which flourishes in great variety. The grasses are also in great variety, from the cocksfoot, *dactylus glomerata*, and poa, to the *agrostis*: fiorin of course is to be found every where, but no where cultivated; the writer is sure it might be with much success in the wet grounds, if there were experimental farmers, and would afford good winter food for the cattle, and dairy

cows, which are the farmer's principal source of rent, but natural grasses grow so freely, that no artificial grass is raised in any part of the parish.

The game of the parish consists of hare, partridge, woodcock, snipe, and plover both green and grey in immense flocks. Were there good cover for woodcocks, it would be a favourite haunt, from the number of springs, and richness of the vales: the rich pasture grounds cause the plover stands, and they are scarce ever molested. Near the southern boundary, there is very excellent brook fishing in the spring and autumn months; an indifferent angler could kill from five to six dozen, herring-size and under, in a day.

III. *Modern Buildings, &c.*

There are no public buildings in the parish. The village of Tullaroan consists merely of a dozen cabins; at the cross road of which are three public houses, six tradesmen's houses, and three farmers'. Within the last three years there has been more beer drank in those public houses in proportion, than whiskey: the quantity of beer drank in each house in the course of the year, is about 200 barrels; of whiskey, about a puncheon and a half. This increase in drinking beer, was thus accounted for by a public house keeper, "Sir, the whiskey is too dear, and for the same money they can get a bigger drink of beer." Whatever be the cause, the circumstance is a happy one, and were this progressive in every part of Ireland, it would be a great step towards checking the spirit of disorder, and preventing the commission of crime among the country

people, which so sadly disgraces many parts of this island.

The report of Mr. Poinder, governor of Bridewell, London, on the subject of dram drinking and the use of ardent spirits, is well worth the attention of every person who may be engaged in endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the poor. He there proves by a close enquiry among criminals for many years, that the use of ardent spirits is the parent of the majority of crimes that came under his observation, and no man had a more extensive opportunity of making enquiry on the subject. The intoxicating effect, he says, of malt liquor, is exceedingly different from that of ardent spirits; the first stupifies, unnerves, and sends the drunkard home unable and unwilling to be engaged in the commission of any crime that requires exertion; on the contrary, spirits have a maddening exciting effect, they inflame the passions, give a false, though not less desperate courage, and instead of stupifying, animate and prepare the man for committing any act. He found by examination, that murderers and house-breakers, were particularly addicted to drinking spirits; the murderer of Mr. Baker attributed to it his excitement to the desperate act; and another criminal said to him, "do you think, Sir, that I would go and break into your house, and expose myself to be shot, were I not first excited to it by drinking spirits." He spoke the language of many, and it should speak loud to our philanthropic individuals, societies, and legislators. The demoralized state of our country is the subject of much declamation, but of little exertion to endeavour a change in its character. Military

and legal execution may suppress it for a while, but the principle still exists, and is ready to break out, whenever circumstances allow, and opportunity is given; it is a radical change in the moral state of the people that is wanting, for the consent to crime belongs not to individuals, but to the great body of the lower orders. The shout of approbation resounded from cabin to cabin, on the murder of Mr. Baker in the neighbouring county; and within two years a magistrate has been fired at in the parish of Tullaroan; once he was severely wounded in the hands, another time he was fired at while going to church on Sunday morning, within half a mile of the village; and a man was shot within two fields of it, entering his own house: the men who have committed these acts, are well known in the country, but cannot be prosecuted from want of evidence, and feel no inconvenience from the discountenance of the people, for there is no law of reputation to oppose them; and there is among the lower orders if not a general consent, at least an indifference to the dreadful evil of this state of things. Quere, if it can in any wise be conducive in stopping the inclination to disorder and crime, should it not occupy the attention of individuals and societies to endeavour to substitute, as far as possible, the use of malt liquor in the place of spirits?

The state of the cabins differs according to the circumstances of the farmers and cottagers; there has been a desire for improvement in their houses among the better sort of farmers; they are introducing divisions of rooms, plastered walls, built up fire places and grates, and in this respect the houses

of the better farmers are tolerably comfortable; but the cabins of the labourers and lower order of farmers are as dirty and disorderly as they are through all the south of Ireland, nor shall we see it otherwise, until the minds of the people are more civilized than they are at present; ignorance, indolence, poverty, and the slavish feeling of dependence which belongs to their semi-barbarous vassal state (for they have the whole feeling of vassals, from their struggles to pay rent) always make men insensible to the disgusting appearance of dirt, filth, and disorder; and the state of mind they are in paralyzes every exertion but that which is necessary to meet imperious wants, and while those wants are presented every day, and their minds solely occupied by them, they can feel no inconvenience in their dirty, and almost brutish manner of living. Cleanliness must ever follow comfortable circumstances and some civilization of mind, but will not go before it; when a fat pig is necessary to pay rent, when warmth is so essential to fattening with slender food, when straw is difficult to get, and a piggery difficult to build, it is very hard to persuade a poor man not to allow his pig to sleep in his cabin, and submit to all its offensiveness; his anxiety about the one makes him insensible to the other: the same feeling operates with respect to the state of their yards; dung must be made, and they rejoice more in its accumulation before their doors, than in the neatest appearance that could be presented to them. When sufficient employment shall be found, rents of cabins and gardens made moderate, and education more advanced, then shall we see decency of appearance attend decency of mind and amelioration of condition.

The two principal roads in the parish run one *Roads.* from north to south leading from Johnstown and the Queen's county to Callan, about sixteen miles; the other from east to west, and leading from Kilkenny to the Slievardagh collieries, about five miles; there are also two cross roads leading into Kilkenny and the county of Tipperary about five miles: nothing can be worse than their state, they are run over the hills without regard to line or level, have been quite neglected, and in some places almost impassable. The road from the centre of the parish to the colliery is so cut up, and has such deep sloughs, that it would seem to an observer to be impossible for a loaded car to pass; the distance of the landlords, and the want of resident gentlemen, are the causes of this. A new line of road has been projected to run through the parish from north to south through the vale; it would be a most useful road, and the best line between the Queen's county and the towns of Waterford, Carrick, and Clonmell, and would be almost a perfect level, but it has been opposed by the farmers, on account of its passing through the richest part of the ground.

The roads are made in some places of black slate which is very bad in wet weather, in other places of gravel, or any stuff at hand, but no pains have been taken to get good stuff, although there is excellent gravel or sand to be had on all the stream-beds which intersect the grounds. From six to eight shilling a perch is allowed for mending.

There are several small bridges over the streams, *Bridges.* but many more are wanting, as the water crosses the roads in several places.

There are now no Noblemen or Gentlemen's Seats in the parish, nor have there been any since the Grace Family ceased to possess and inhabit the Castle of Courtstown.

IV. *Ancient Buildings, &c.*

Nothing can be collected, even from oral tradition, respecting this parish, before the invasion of the English; but the rude works of its semibarbarous inhabitants preceding that event are in many places still discernible. Though such are not objects of general research, yet as they may interest the curious, and particularly those connected with this country,* they ought not on the one hand to be altogether passed over, or on the other to be dilated upon beyond their immediate connection with Tullaghrohan, or beyond what may be called the parish boundary. Within these limits, however, there is scarcely a townland in which there is not a rath, moat, lis, druid's chair, or some other pagan remain of religion or defence. In that of Courtstown there are three raths or forts. Percy, Pinkerton, Vallancey, Grose, Ledwich, and other eminent antiquaries, have on this subject anticipated every result of enquiry, or theory of conjecture. It will be sufficient therefore to observe, that there are three evidently

* "Nature" (says Mr. Gibbon) "has implanted in our breasts a lively impulse to extend the narrow span of our existence, by the knowledge of the events that have happened on the soil which we inhabit, of the characters and actions of those men from whom our descent, as individuals or as a people, is probably derived. The same laudable emulation will prompt us to review and to enrich our common treasure of national glory: and those who are best entitled to the esteem of posterity are the most inclined to celebrate the merits of their ancestors."

fortifications. The most perfect of them is situated Raths. on the townland of Courtstown and is surrounded by a very deep foss, inclosing nearly half an acre of ground, having other entrenchments on the outside comprehending about six acres, to which the smaller central inclosure appears to have been designed as a kind of citadel. On the same townland and within a quarter of a mile of this large rath there are two others of about fifty yards in diameter, with barrows or mounds in the middle and a step or swell in the ground along the side banks apparently designed as a seat, and the whole is enclosed with fosses. It is probable that these latter, situated near the large rath, were "talk-moats" or places of assembly. In the picture with which the early accounts of Ireland present us of the continued depredations upon the natives, perpetrated either by the northern invaders, or by the natives on each other, the necessity of these fastnesses to protect the cattle from foreign attack or domestic spoliation at night from foray parties, is obvious. To such a purpose they were fully adapted, as those enterprizes were generally undertaken by small flying parties, against whom a slight barrier afforded sufficient defence. The name of "Danish forts," given to these mounts, seems to be derived rather from their assailants, than from their defenders; rather from those who rendered them necessary, than from those upon whom that necessity of their erection was thus inflicted. But whatever may have been their purpose, their number seems to prove, that the neighbourhood must have been thickly inhabited, or, at least, abounding with flocks and herds. Its retired situation and rich pasture grounds were both then necessarily desirable, and in the midst of the deep woods, with which the country

was then covered, no spot could be more happily circumstanced. The largest rath is on the lands of Rathely-Grace, towards the northern boundary of the parish, and overlooks the fertile vale of Clomanta on the north, and that of Tulliarcan on the south, while itself stands in the midst of fine undulating pasture hills. The inner foss includes nearly two acres of ground; and in the adjoining fields, the exterior rampart, marked by very large banks and dykes evidently for defence, is still strikingly discernible. Another rath is situated within 150 yards of the old church of Tullaroan: it is more than twenty feet in height above the natural surface of the ground, with a platform on the top of about thirty yards in diameter, and a large opening on the eastern side. This rath presents every appearance of having been designed for religious or civil assemblies; as the ground gives the form of benches along the edges, and the platform is too small either for the lodgement of cattle or of men in any numbers. It might indeed have been the residence of one of those chiefs who are said to have built their walled houses on these platforms: but the former conjecture is the more probable, from the primitive custom so universally prevalent of erecting churches where there had before been or then were trilithons, druids' altars, cairns* or sepulchral monuments, though

* These cairns or piles of loose stones, are generally supposed to mark the spot where the remains of some powerful chieftain were interred. The attachment and number of his followers may be estimated by the size and quantity of the stones, as each man it is said contributed but one. Walter Scott mentions, that these cairns crown the summits of most of the Scottish hills, and that sometimes urns, containing bones, ashes, and beads, are found beneath them.

"On every a cairn's gray pyramid,

"Where urns of mighty chiefs lie hid."

Last Minstrel, Canto 3, Stanza 29.

there are now no visible remains of either trili- Rath. thon or cairn in the parish. This juxtaposition or adaptation seems to shew pretty strongly, the knowledge of human nature possessed by these primitive missionaries, a knowledge which it must be confessed, the first missionaries to America, either did not possess, or possessing, disdained to practice; "and surely" to use the words of an ingenious author "they were much better and wiser who in those early times grafted the evangelical upon the druidical culture, than they who in subsequent times instituted a system of extirpation in order to regenerate."* At the same distance on the opposite side of the church is a caught, or meeting place for funerals, distinguished by two bushes on an heap of earth, and by another of stones, aggregated by the prevalent superstitious customs of the times. The funerals of the peasantry that pass it still stop, and the people repeat a prayer for the deceased. The central situation of the district enclosed by the hills may sufficiently account for its having been the place chosen by pagans and christians for assembly, worship, and burial. These local attractions doubtless induced also the lords of Grace's country, to select a site, so advantageously conditioned for their residence; nor could the numerous and diversified matters of interesting recollection fail to influence both taste and feeling upon the occasion of such a selection. But to pass from the aerial regions of conjecture to the firm ground of certainty; it may, as a preliminary, be here sufficient to remark that Tullaroan being comprehended in the territory of

* Sampson's Statistical Survey of Co. Londonderry, page 494.

Leinster, became on the death of King Dermot Mac Morough in 1171, the property of Richard de Clare, surnamed Strongbow, Earl of Pembroke,* really by force of arms, though nominally by his marriage with Eva, that Prince's only child.†

* It should be noted, that although in the eyes of the English nation and sovereign, Strongbow was merely regarded as an English Noble, holding of the King; yet, in the estimation of the Irish, he was accepted as the King of Leinster, in right of his wife Eva, heiress of that kingdom. This circumstance might have been, perhaps, productive of important consequences during some of the ensuing periods of English feebleness within the pale, if a series of male heirs had survived in this ancient family.

† It may also here be desirable to particularize the chief materials provided for the foundation destined to support our intended fabric. — Among these, the national Records in the Castle of Dublin, in the Courts of Law, and Public Offices, assuredly merit the first place from their authenticity and the quantity of matter contained in them, though in the present undertaking they have been more serviceable in adding stability, than in giving form; for most of the genealogical part has been transcribed from a MS. of 1715, by Michael Grace of Gracefield; for which he acknowledges as its original an old family "folio MS. in the possession of John Grace of Courtstown, then in France." The first mentioned MS. contains also an account of the Sheffield, Waish and Bryan families.

Sheffield Grace, who died in 1746, further assisted to rescue from oblivion some particulars relative to his name. Besides his genealogical additions to the forgoing MS., he has detailed many interesting biographical circumstances connected with the civil wars, the family attainder, confiscation of property, &c.

In the year 1785, a pedigree was drawn out, exhibiting the descent, in a clear and unbroken stream, from the marriage of Baron Almaric Grace, in 1385, the 8th Richard II. to the birth of John Grace, his lineal descendant in the fourteenth generation, who was Aide-de-camp to the reigning Prince of Anhalt Coethen in the Austrian service, and died at the siege of Belgrade in 1759.

An authenticated pedigree of eleven generations is recorded in the Office of Arms, commencing temp. Henry VIII. with Baron John Grace

The lands of England were not more liberally distributed on the Norman conquest, than were those of Ireland on the success of the Anglo-Norman enterprise. In the former of these events, originated the ancient greatness of the House of de Clare;* in the latter, its theme of modern fame. What the Duke

Fitzoliver of Courtstown; from whose younger son, Sir Oliver Grace, the Ballylinch or Gracefield family is descended. In the various official Heraldic MSS. deposited there, numerous original entries, and other genealogical memoranda relative to the name, have been found.

From the Diocesan Courts of Dublin, Ossory and Cashel, much valuable materials have been also collected, as well as from the Evidence Chamber in the Castle of Kilkenny. Besides these, some private MSS., monumental inscriptions, local traditions, MS. and oral Irish poetry, may likewise be considered as affording matter for original information.

Such are the solid foundations on which our superstructure may fearlessly rest: and while confiding to their support and tenacious of fact, if the darkness of feudal days obscure, circumscribe, or even render useless some portion of our materials, it can seldom, thus guarded, be able to misapply them.

* Richard Fitzgilbert, Count of Ewe and Brion in Normandy, accompanied his kinsman William the Conqueror to England, from whom he obtained the Lordship of Clare, with other vast grants of land; and his descendants in the third generation enjoyed the following great hereditary possessions, viz.:—In England, the Earldoms of Clare, Hertford, Gloucester, Pembroke, Buckingham, and Strigul or Chepstow, with the Marshalship of the Kingdom. In Ireland, the sovereign Lordship of Leinster, containing the palatinates of Carlow, Wexford, Kilkenny, Kildare, and Leix (Queen's Co.), with the Marshalship of the Kingdom. And in Normandy, they bore the titles of Counts of Ewe or Ogie, Brion, and Longneville. It is not however owing to these princely possessions, that their name has not been hurried along the stream of time to the gulph of oblivion. The patronymic of "de Clare" is indeed now almost unknown: but the assumed name of "Strongbow," borne by Richard, Earl of Pembroke, the conqueror of Ireland, is to this day as universally and familiarly repeated, as that of William, Duke of Normandy, the Conqueror of England.

of Normandy was in 1066, such was the Earl of Pembroke in 1170; and his followers as largely participated in the success of his adventure, as did those who attended the Duke of Normandy into England. Extensive districts and entire counties rewarded these military chieftains;* and from such splendid acquisitions, the services of their own subordinate adherents were also largely recompensed. Among these princely grants was that of Grace's country, to Raymond le Gros. This consisted of a vast tract of land, comprehending, it is said, the Barony of Cranagh, and extending northwards by the liberties of Kilkenny and the River Nore, to the borders of the Queen's County; and thence, southwards along the borders of Tipperary and the Munster river, to the liberties of Callan: forming a district between eleven and twelve miles in length, and between five and six in breadth. Various lesser portions of this great territory seem to have been very early regranted in fee; for we find,† Ivo Leynach, 10th of Edward I. (1282), resisting the claim of William le Gras to six marks of silver, due from certain lands held of his Lordship of Tullarcan. Many of the minor castles erected to protect these ample possessions might consequently have owed their origin to other families besides that of Grace; though it is probable, from the ancient denominations of land so frequently terminating in

* Of these personages and of most of their associates, it may be observed, that though they are sometimes designated under the title of *adventurers*, they brought with them at least as much nobility as they found. It is curious also to reflect, that nearly the same persons, who had conquered and occupied the greater part of South Wales, also planted themselves in Ireland at the expense of another Celtic race.

† Rot. Plac. int. Rec. Tar. Bism. 10. Edward I.

this name,* that their feudal jurisdiction continued to be acknowledged. The central situation of Tullaroan in the district of Grace's country, naturally occasioned the selection of that place for the chief castle of the territorial lords; some of whom, we find styled baron of Tullaroan, as well as baron Grace, and baron of Courtstown.† To their residence there may also be attributed the subsequent appellation of "Grace's Parish," given to the adjoining lands, which they retain to this day. Though we are unable to fix a precise date to the building of this Castle, we may be allowed to conjecture that it was nearly

* Among many instances of the kind that occur throughout this County, and those of Tipperary, Carlow, and Wexford, we will merely notice, that in this Barony there is a Ballyroe-Grace, a Brittasmore-Grace, and a Rathely-Grace, in Tullaroan; a Ballyfrank-Grace, and a Kneekengras, in Ballycallen; a Coolishal-Grace, and a Knock-Grace, in Three Castles; a Grace-Graigue, and a Ballyshean Grace, in Clomanta; a Rathmoyle-Grace, and a Lough-Grace, in Ballynamara, &c. &c.

† The possession in fee of a Barony, or a Barony by tenure, could alone entitle an ancient Baron (holding per Baroniam in Capite) to have summons to Parliament. It was however, the privilege of the Sovereign to issue summons's to such Barons only as he thought proper.—In the exercise of this prerogative, some Barons by tenure were summoned regularly, many occasionally, and others not at all. Royal favour, as well as the possession or want of individual power, influenced this selection. It is in this proud right of tenure, that the origin may be found of the ancient and Parliamentary Barony of Offaley, in the family of Fitzgerald; of Oletan, in that of Barry; of Butler, in that of Butler; of Delvin, in that of Nugent; of Lixnaw, in that of Fitzmaurice; of Roche, in that of Roche; of Courcy, in that of Courcy, &c. And out of the same feudal right of tenure, grew the titular Barony of Grace, and of Courtstown, in the family of Grace; of Galtrim, in that of Hussey; of Dangan, in that of Wellesley; of Drumrany, in that of Dillon; of Shanacaher, in that of Walsh; of Navan, in that of Nagle; of Loughmoe, in that of Purcell; of Carbery, in that of Birmingham; and of Decies, and of Bunnchurch, in that of Fitzgerald,

coeval with "Grace's Castle"* in Kilkenny, erected by William le Gras,† before 11th of John, (1210). And we are further countenanced in our opinion, that it was the work of the same personage, at the same period, from the affinity between him and the 1st William, Earl of Pembroke, who married Strongbow's heir; and, from the high trust he enjoyed of being for life constable and seneschal of Leinster, and governor of Kilkenny, as well as from the exclusive privilege of possessing a castle in the Earl Marshal's city. It was probably also this William le Gras, who erected the ancient tower and gateway commonly called Grace's Gate, or Grace's Pass or Way, which formerly flanking the city walls on the west.

We must however revert a little to the first English proprietor of Tullaroan; and to the first (it may be safely added) of all the English settlers, in renown and heroic exploits.

Raymond le Gros‡ was brother to Odo Fitzwilliam

* Grace's Castle was situated between the Marshal's Castle and St. Francis' Abbey. It presented a front of 130 feet, and its massive out-works extended to the river Nore, where some well cemented fragments of them are still visible. In the *Hibernia Dominicana*, page 270, this ancient structure is thus mentioned: "*Gracæorum gens ex Anglia in Hiberniam dudum advenerat, pluresque in variis hujus insulæ partibus assecuta est possessiones, nominatim in urbe Kilkenniensi, ubi adhuc videre est castrum allodiale illius familiæ, anglice 'Grace's Castle,' propterea dictum, in quo comitia juridica, vulgo assisæ, pro comitatu Kilkenniensi singulis semestribus habentur, Principales porro Gracæorum sunt de Courtstown, de Ballylinch, de Legan et de Catney et Brittas in agro Tipperariensi.*"

† Ledwich's *History of Kilkenny*, page 436.

‡ Segur's *MS. Baronage of England*—*Hanmer's Chronicle of Ireland*, page 276—*Giraldus Cambrensis*, chapter 13, et passim. The last mes-

de Carew, lord of Carew in Pembroke-shire, and second son of William Fitz-Gerald, lord of Carew, who was eldest son of Gerald Fitz-Walter de Windsor, afterwards surnamed de Carew from his maternal inheritance, and brother of Maurice Fitz-Gerald, afterwards lord of Offaley, another powerful coadjutor in the Anglo-Norman expedition. History scarcely presents, if it does at all present, a more striking instance of that first and most powerful proof of greatness which lies in an ascendancy over other men's minds, than was exhibited by this chieftain. The soldiery, who without him were nothing, with him were every thing; and Earl Strongbow, says Hollinshed, constrained him to become joint viceroy with himself. Giraldus Cambrensis calls him, "the notable and chiefest pillar of Ireland." With heroism so elevated, magnanimity so unsullied, wisdom so profound, and exploits so unrivalled as their "unvarnished tale unfold," Raymond le Gros only wanted a Homer or a Tasso to have been an Achilles or a Rinaldo.

fionted writer informs us that Raymund Fitzwilliam, as he is sometimes called, was denominated Le Gros as a personal characteristic. This was a common mode of discriminating individuals of the highest rank in the western nations of Europe during the middle ages, and it continued in England even long after the Norman Conquest. Such also was, and is yet the practice among the natives of Spanish and British America; and in the selection, adoption, and observance of these personal appellatives, the South Sea Islanders are stated to evince much acumen, as well as jealousy, respecting them. Mr. Gibbon observes, that "the primitive choice of every word must have had a cause and a meaning: each name was derived from some accident, or allusion, or quality of mind or body; and the titles of the savage chiefs announced their wisdom in council, or their valour in the field. Such in the book of nature and antiquity are the heroes of Homer. But in the lapse of ages and idioms, the true signification was lost or misapplied: the qualities of a man were blindly transferred to a child, and chance,

Raymond
le Gros.

Raymond landed in Ireland in May 11, 1170,* but he returned (says Leland†) to Wales in 1173, to take possession of the lands that devolved to him on his father's death;‡ whence, he shortly after hastened back to Ireland with thirty leaders of his own kindred, 100 horsemen, and 300 archers, to the assistance of Strongbow, whose sister, Basilia de Clare, he at this time married at Wexford, and obtained a great portion of land with her in dowry, as well as the distinguished civil and military offices of constable and standard-bearer of Leinster. Maurice Regan, the proto-historian of English power in Ireland, and the eye-witness of its progress, mentions,§

"custom were the only motives that could direct this arbitrary imposition." Thus the son of Raymond le Gros, was called William Fitz-Raymond le Gros, or le Gras, or Crassus, the meaning of these several names being similar; and Grace has now become the agnomen of his posterity in vernacular pronunciation. Mr. Grose has amused himself with playing upon the strange effects of the appellative still continuing in a descendant, of condition altogether different from the original nominee. Thus Mr. Golightly may be furnished with a pair of feet which could scarcely be enlarged by the visitation of the Elephantiasis; and Cicero in his library very little resembled the honest countryman gathering in his crop of vetches. In North Wales, there still survives the practice among the lower orders of preserving the same appellatives in the family, with an inversion of order. Thus, Thomas Williams the grandfather is William Thomas the son; while the grandson travels back for his name to the grandfather. It must be confessed, that this is a device well calculated to perplex a herald in his researches through a pedigree.

* *Annales Jacobi Gras Kilkenniensis*; qui incipiunt cum historia invasionum hujus insule, et terminantur cum obitibus familiarum Ormondie et Desmonie.—MS. in E. 3. 20. Col. Trin. Dubl.

† History of Ireland, vol. 1. chap. 4. page 93.

‡ Hanmer's Chronicle, page 279.

§ Fragments of the History of Ireland, edited by Harris, page 41.

that the constablenesship of Leinster with the ensign and banner, were given to Raymond le Gros only during the minority of the daughter of Robert de Quincey ; but that the earl gave in marriage with Basilia his sister, Fethard, Odrone, and Glascarrig upon the sea, unto him and his heirs for ever. The following are the author's words, as translated into French metre by his desire, together with Sir George Carew's* English translation. Temp. Elizabeth.

" Fetherd li donat li cuntur	The Earl gave to him Fethard
" A marriag ad sa soror,	In marriage with his sister ;
" Puis li ad saches done	Then he gave him Odrone
" Odrone tut enherits,	In full inheritance,
" Et Glaskarrig ensement	And Glascarrig likewise
" Sur la mer vers le orient."	Upon the sea towards the east.

For the protection of these possessions and of the English settlers in the county of Wexford, Raymond built the strong castle of Enniscorthy on a commanding situation over the river Slaney ; and houses gradually accumulated round it for the purpose of supplying the garrison with provisions, as well as for trade and security. To this origin may be traced the present town of Enniscorthy. The effects of nearly five centuries were unfelt by this massive structure, and it stood uninjured by time or warfare till besieged, taken, and destroyed by Oliver Cromwell in 1649. After an interval of about 130 years, from the grant of these lands in the county of Wexford to Raymond le Gros, Hollinshed informs us, that " Gilbert de Sutton, steward of Wexford, was " slain by the Irish near the town of Hamon le Gras, " which Hamon bore himself right valiantly in that " fight, and escaped through his great manhood ; but " afterwards in 1315, was killed valiantly fighting

* Afterwards Earl of Totness.

Raymond le Gros. “against Edward Bruce and the Scots, who had invaded Ireland, and were overrunning the province of Leinster.”* Raymond le Gros received also from Dermoid Mac Carthy, king of Cork, whom he restored to his dominions,† an extensive tract of land in the county of Kerry; which he settled upon Maurice Fitz-Raymond,‡ his second son, ancestor to the family of Fitz-Maurice. On the death of earl Strongbow, 22. Henry II. (1176), he was appointed sole governor of Ireland. It is stated in the oldest record extant in the office of Ulster, King of Arms:§ “that Raymond le Gros, one of the principal Invaders of Ireland, and first Viceroy under King Henry II. married Basilia de Clare, sister unto Richard de Clare, commonly called Strongbow, Earl of Pembroke, Chepstow or Strigul, and Ogey; by whom, he was ancestor to the families of Gracein the County of Kilkenny, and Fitz-Maurice in the County of Kerry.” We have been unable to ascertain on what authority 1184 is stated as the period of this distinguished chieftain’s death, but an

* The historian here speaks of the battle of Ascul in the county of Kildare, in which Hamon le Gras commanded the English army. A very ancient crest of the Grace family, formerly in partial use among some of its branches, is described in the books of the Office of Arms to be, a Lion passant argent, trampling on a Royal Scotch Thistle—in allusion to King Edward Bruce’s defeat by Sir Hamon le Gras. The crest of the barons of Courtstown, was a Lion rampant, per fess argent and or, as in the arms; but that of the Ballylinch or Gracefield family was a demi Lion rampant argent.

† Leland’s History of Ireland, vol. 1. chap. 4, page 110.

‡ Lodge’s Peerage of Ireland, vol. 2, p. 184.

§ The first volume of MS. Pedigrees.

entry in the archives of the abbey of St. Thomas in ^{Raymond le Gros.} Dublin, distinctly proves it to have been previously to 1201 : since, in that year, his wife Basilia granted to that house certain lands held by William Danmartin, for the health of the souls of earl Gilbert her father, Richard her brother, and her husband Raymond ; and from the same authority, we learn, that “ Raymond “ Fitz-William (so called from being the son of William “ Fitz-Gerald) and his wife Basilia, daughter of earl “ Gilbert, directed their bodies to be buried in this “ abbey.” It is, however, stated in the *Monasticon Hibernicum*,* that Raymond le Gros was interred in the abbey of Molana in the county of Waterford ; and that on his death, Basilia† became second wife to Geoffrey Fitz-Robert de Marisco, baron of Kells county of Kilkenny, and seneschal of Ireland, by whom she had no issue. Raymond’s eldest son William Fitz-Raymond retained the patronymic of le Gros, (the usual mark of primogeniture at this period,‡) and succeeded to all the lands Raymond

* Page 695, edited by Archdall.

† Page 183, *ibid.*

‡ The descent of this family is singularly illustrative of this practice. William, the eldest son of Walter Fitz-Othor, governor of Windsor, in 1078 retained the superadded, or, as in French, the surname of Windsor, and is ancestor to the family of that name ; while Gerald Fitz-Walter the youngest son, acquired from his Lordship of Carew in Pembrokeshire, the surname of Carew. William, the eldest son of this Gerald de Carew kept the paternal surname, which was never assumed by Maurice Fitz-Gerald the 2d son, ancestor to the Fitz-Gerald, Mackenzie, and Fitz-Gibbon families. Odo, as eldest son of this William de Carew, was likewise called de Carew, and is ancestor to the Carew Family ; while Raymond his second son, acquired from his prowess and great stature the Cognomen of le Gros, which he transmitted to his eldest son, William, ancestor to the Grace family, and which was never assumed by Maurice

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had inherited in Wales and England, as well as to those he had acquired in Leinster.

Grace's country was at this time held as of the lordship of Tullaroan, which Earl Strongbow had granted to Raymond le Gros, to be held as unconditionally as he himself held his castle of Kilkenny. This peculiar privilege exempted this district from all feudal acknowledgments, and it appears to be the only land in this county that paid no chiefry to, and was no way dependent on the earl Marshal's castle of Kilkenny. We find, 8th of Richard I. (1197) that William le Gras, lord of Tullaghrohan was governor of Kilkenny, as well as

Fitz-Raymond his second son ancestor to the Fitz-Maurice family, but continued, as in the foregoing instances, to be the surname of William his eldest son exclusively and of his descendants, though since changed by English pronunciation into Grace. This frequent, but systematic assumption of new surnames by the younger branches of the house of Windsor, was nothing unusual in early times; thus, we find, in the genealogical history of the house of Yvery, that the chief descendants in the direct male line bore the surnames of Yvery, Luvel, Perceval, Gournay, and Harpetre, the armorial bearings of these several branches likewise differing widely from each other. A striking instance of an individual's varied surname is exemplified in William of Wickham, born in 1324, one of the most munificent patrons of learning these countries can boast of; to whom, St. Mary's College at Winchester and New College at Oxford owe their origin and splendid endowments. The surnames of Perrot, Wickham, and Long are in early writings indiscriminately applied to this eminent prelate. The first was his original name because his father's was so, the second he took from the place of his birth, and the third from his stature. But the early orthography also of surnames is very uncertain and very conducive to error; thus Gros, Grosse, Crassus, Gras, Grasse, and Grace are indiscriminately made use of by the ancient historians and genealogists of Ireland.—R. Stanyhurst, whose work was printed in 1584, commences his list of the governors of Ireland with "A. D. 1174, Richard Strongbow, "Earl of Pembroke, Governor, having Reimond le Grace joined in "commission with him. 1177, Reimond le Grace lieutenant by him—

constable and seneschal of Leinster ; and the earl of Pembroke's writ, 3d of John (1202) is still extant,* directed to him as seneschal of Leinster, which distinguished office† had been previously held by Geoffrey de Marisco, whom his mother the lady Basilia had married on the death of Raymond le Gros. An exchange of the lands of Ballyregan in the barony of Iffa and Offa in the county of Tipperary was made 9th

"self." And Cambrensis in speaking of the same person, who was his contemporary and relative, writes, Raymond le Gras. A variation of the article *le* occurs in the following deed, "Carta Donationis Willielmi "de Gras primogeniti de terra in Villa de Wales canonicis Prioratus "de Bradenstoke in agro Wiltoniensi;" and witnessed by Willielmo de Gras juniore, Hamone de Gras, &c. And in another charter of his, a change is made from de Gras to Crassus. It commences thus : "Omni- bus præsentem cartam visuris et auditoris, Willielmus Crassus primo- genitus salutem; sciatis nos dedisse Burgensibus nostris de Sod- buria, &c.;" and witnessed by "Domino Willielmo Crasso juniore, Domino Hamone Crasso, &c." William, 2d Earl of Pembroke's Deed in 1233, confirming his father's grant to Tintern Abbey in Wales, is witnessed by "Domino Willielmo Grasso primogenito, Domino Hamone Grasso, &c. The confirmation of the same earl's grant to the abbey of St. Saviour near Kilkenny, temp. Henry III. is witnessed by "Wil- lielmus Crassus, Hamo Crassus, Henricus le Butiller, &c. In Hanmer's Chronicle, printed 1581, we find the Earl of Pembroke's charter in 1223 to the city of Kilkenny witnessed by "William Grace, Hamon Grace, &c." Sir Hamon le Gras, who was slain in 1315 by the Scots at the battle of Ascul, is sometimes denominated le Grosse, le Grase, and le Grace." Other instances might be adduced of the indiscriminate transition and adoption of Crassus, Gros, Gras, and Grace, before they last became the exclusive nomen gentilitium of this family.

* Black Book in Prio. de Christ Church, Dublin, et Archdall's Monast. Hibern. page 153.

† At this period, the office of seneschal appears to have been synoni- mous to that of governor; and it is mentioned in Owen Crethen's British Chronicle, as quoted by Dr. Hanmer (page 265), that king Henry II. being reconciled to Richard Strongbow, Earl of Strigule,

of John (1208), between William le Grasse and Ivor Fitz-Jocelyn de Marisco.*

At this period, the English conquerors necessarily maintained their dominion by the iron arm of coercion, and the protection of their domains and subjugation of the natives equally obliged them to erect these "Towers and Ramparts"† which Fearflatha

not only restored unto him all his lands in England and Normandy, but made him seneschal of Ireland. Hervey de Montemarisco, constable of Ireland, who founded Dunbrody Abbey in the county of Wexford, was seneschal of the estates or palatinate in Ireland belonging to Richard, Earl of Pembroke.—Monast. Hiber.

* Plea Roll, No. 22, in Tur. Berm.

† Among the castles built for this purpose by different branches of the Grace family, the ruins are still standing of those of Inchmore, Gaulstown, Tubrid, Rathely-Grace, and Killaghy in this barony and in Grace's country; of Ballylinch, Killerney, and Legan near Thomastown; of Agheviller, near Knocktopher; of Grace Castle, near Castletown in the Queen's County; of Gracetown Castle, near Killenauale; of Grace's Castle, near Clogheen; of Carney Castle, near Nenagh; of Brittas Castle,(1) near Thurles, and of Uskane in the county of Tipperary; of Castle Grace, near Tullow, county of Carlow; and there have been doubtless many others belonging to this family, throughout their extensive possessions of which no vestiges remain. Innovation and time have however hitherto spared the foregoing venerable landmarks of towering greatness and mighty ruin.

(1) The Brittas branch of the Grace family is now represented by Henry Grace Langley, Esq. who has with great judgment restored this ancient castle, and has at a very considerable expence rendered it a spacious and excellent residence. Though restricted in its dimensions and relieved from its walled and moated outworks, two original towers of massy thickness give a strong character of antiquity to the castellated form, that has been generally adopted in Mr. Grace Langley's architectural improvements. The preservation also of the older timber, and the formation of flourishing plantations further testify the care and

O'Gnive, bard to the O'Neals, complains of having ^{Castles,} disfigured the fair sporting fields of Erin.* The situation of Grace's country, continually exposed to the attacks of its restless neighbours, the Fitz-Patricks, the O'Mores and the Mac Moroughs, justified on the principle of self-defence, the many frontier castles of its military chieftains, though indeed this legitimate object was often abandoned for motives of predatory warfare and feudal aggression. Tullaroan castle and Grace's castle in Kilkenny appear to have been built by this William le Gras† about the same time that the castle of Kilkenny‡ was rebuilt by the first William Earl of Pembroke.

* Walker's Irish bards, p. 160.

† Ledwich's history of Kilkenny, p. 436.

‡ It may not be uninteresting to notice succinctly this ancient structure, and its different proprietors. Leinster being in possession

taste of the present highly respectable proprietor. On one of the few surviving monumental remains of the Brittas-Graces in the church of Thurles, and which this gentleman has restored, is the following inscription :

Siste Viator, et vide

Non Epitaphium sed Epithalamium, non Tumulum sed Thalamum extractum anno Domini 1683. Maritus et Uxor, alter in alterius gremio recumbentes, hic pleni gratiæ requiescunt; Joannes Grace armiger, legum et juris potens, antistes, vir pectore et lingua inculpatus, pater patriæ, propaginis sollicitus. Ellena Purcell obiit sexto Junii 1681. Fœmina cœlestis, claris orta natalibus, pauperibus matrona, mater studiosa : uterque unus, non duo ; ambo beati, non mortui, hic sed vivi latitant. Precare ergo Viator et cane Io Triumphe !

One faith in Christ us joined in bonds of love,
Nor life nor death our tie could e'er remove,
We liv'd. Christ was our guide thro' life alone;
Christ holds us up tho' laid within this stone.

Castles.

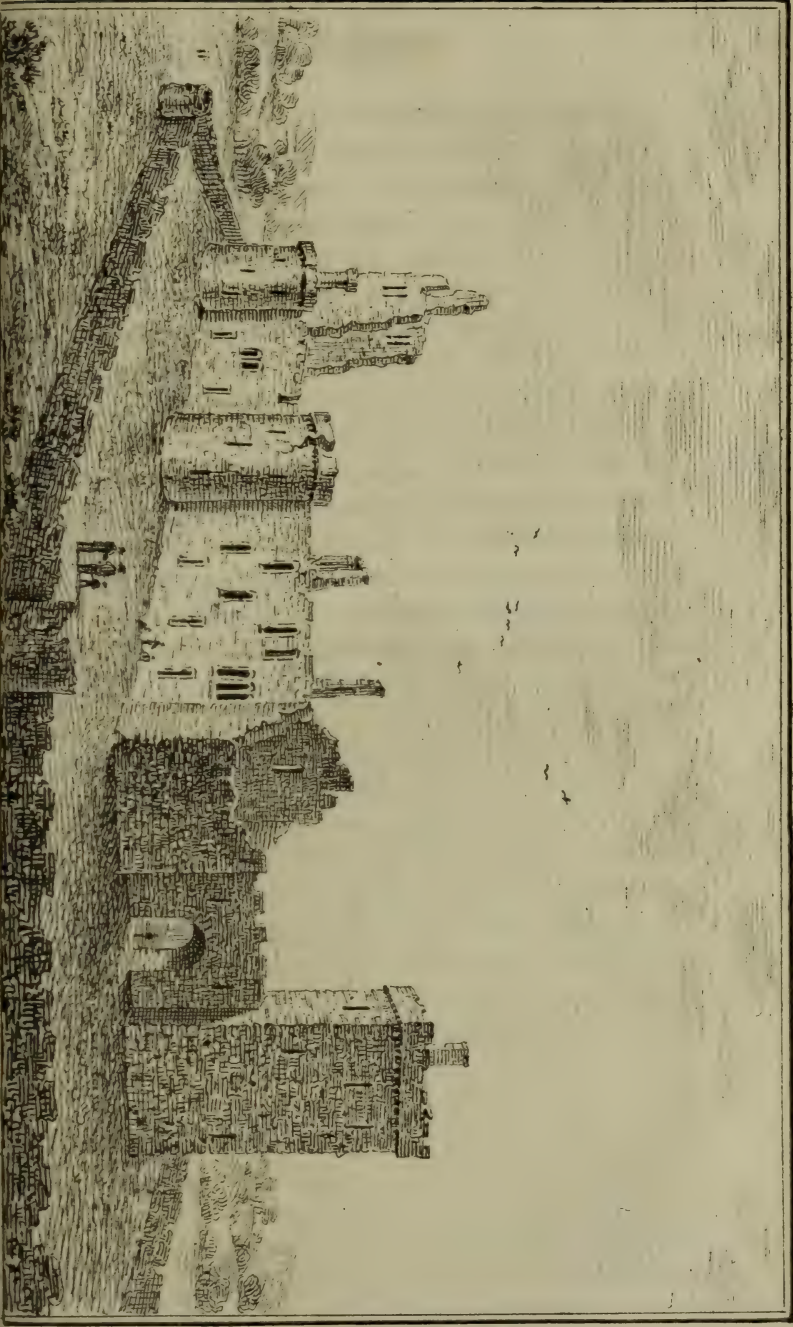
A tradition prevails that the castles of Tullaroan and Courtstown were distinct structures, and the former having been destroyed in a hostile irruption of the Irish, the latter was erected on a different site. The ruins of this edifice evinced considerable grandeur, as well as great strength. They exhibited the spirit of a powerful chieftain, and the taste of a feudal age. Courtstown castle consisted of an outward ballium or envelope, having a round tower at each angle, and also at each side of an embattled entrance to the south, which was further defended by a portecullis. Within this area or outward court, comprehending about an acre of ground, stood the body of the castle enclosing an inner court of an oblong form. The general figure of the building was polygonal. A massive quadrangular tower,

of earl Strongbow, by his marriage with Eva, the heiress of Dermot king of Leinster, he selected Kilkenny for the situation of a great castle and chief residence, which he began in 1172, but which the Irish destroyed the year following. The earl himself dying in 1176, we find no further notice of a castle here till 1195, when William Marshall, who became earl of Pembroke and lord of Leinster, in right of his wife Isabel de Clare, earl Strongbow's only child, commenced a new structure on the site of the old, which, with the subsequent alterations attendant on time and fashion, is the present castle. By failure of heirs male in the Marshall family, the castle and Palatinate of Kilkenny passed by marriage with Isabel Marshall the 3d sister and co-heir of Auselm the last earl, to Gilbert de Clare, 6th earl of Clare, and also earl of Hertford and Gloucester. Gilbert, the 9th earl of Clare, &c. dying without issue in 1134, the castle and palatinate of Kilkenny came to his 3d sister and co-heir Eleanor de Clare, the wife of Hugh le Spencer, who, in her right, became earl of Gloucester and lord of Kilkenny. Thomas le Spencer their grandson, lord of Glamorgan and Kilkenny, and restored afterwards to the earldom of Gloucester, sold the castle of Kilkenny in 1391 to James Butler, 3d earl of Ormonde, whose ancient residence was at Carrick castle, and from that period to the present time, the castle of Kilkenny has continued in the uninterrupted possession of his descendants.

Engraved by Wood and Bury

N.B. View of the Castle from the North

By the late Benjamin Harrison



or keep, projected from the centre of the south front, *Castles.* directly opposite to the embattled entrance of the exterior area above-mentioned. The walls of this tower were of considerable thickness, and the rests and fire places within shewed it to have originally admitted five floors. From the sides of this great square tower, two wings extended which terminated on the east and west with round towers. The east front consequently exhibited on its southern angle one of these round towers, and further northwards stood a similar tower, flanking a portal which led into the inner court formerly furnished with a portcullis.—Between this last flanking round tower and a square tower at the northern angle was a spacious room or hall, of an oblong shape, occupying the entire space. The north front consisted of a high embattled wall connecting two square towers, and inclosing the inner area on that side. The western front externally corresponded with the eastern. There is said to have been a communication round the buildings of the inner court by a gallery, and, in the centre of it, the traces of a draw well are still visible, as are also the vestiges beyond the outside walls of the bowling-green, cock-pit, fish ponds, &c. Some mounds of earth to the south of the castle, called “bow-butts,” are likewise visible, and are reported by tradition to have been the place where the followers were exercised in the practice of archery.

Though deprived of the “pride, pomp and circumstance of glorious war,” Courtstown castle long continued to possess great dignity of appearance from the extent of its area, the height and massive thickness of its walls, the picturesque and skilful dis-

Castles, position of its towers, the embattled gateway and works of circumvallation, by which it was defended. Such were the characteristic features of this baronial edifice about the year 1760,* and after abundantly supplying, for above a century, materials for all the neighbouring structures, and for repairing the roads, &c. its very foundations are now beginning to be rooted up, and

“ Broke by the share of every rustic plough :

“ So perish monuments of mortal birth,

“ So perish all in turn, save well-recorded worth.”

Byron's Childe Harolde, Cant. II. Stanz. 85.

Two specimens of ancient breast armour or cuirasses of iron, one of them inlaid with gold or some other yellow metal, now in the possession of Mr. Butler, were found here some years ago.

“ Cumbrons of size, uncouth to sight,

And useless in the modern fight---

Scott's Rokeby, page 190.

Other pieces of body armour, an axe with a double edge, a large spur with a rowel nearly two inches in diameter, the remains of a capacious drinking vessel, together with human bones, have been also from time to time discovered.

The author of *this section* obtained from a peasant an imperfect silver coin of Edward I., on which is represented the king's face crowned, with the inscription, “ Edw. R. Angl. Dns. Hi.” and on the reverse a star of eleven rays, inscribed “ Civitas Dublinie.” A coin of queen Elizabeth with her head or bust in profile inscribed, “ Elizabeth D. G. A. F. et Hibernie Regina,” and on the reverse an escutcheon

* The collection of ancient architectural drawings belonging to Peter Walsh, Esq. of Belline, in this county, was commenced about this period, and the views of many other interesting remains of antiquity are thus preserved, of which no vestiges are now to be found.

crowned, charged with three harps and dated 1561. Coins. The inscription round the verge is "Posui Deum adiutorem meum." A metal coin of James II. current for half-a-crown, bearing the king's head adorned with a wreath of laurel, inscribed "Jacobus II. Dei Gratia," and on the reverse a crown over two sceptres in saltier between the letters "J. R." with the Roman number "XXX" above the crown and "Apr." (April) under it, inscribed, "Mag. Br. Fra. et. Hib. Rex. 1690."*

When the country was well wooded, the situation of this castle must have been singularly happy. It stood at the foot of a hill with a large wooded glen immediately adjoining, through the centre of which the river hurries along its transparent waters. On one side, the country, gently rising to the northern hills, was likewise covered with wood. In front, a rich vale, with a diversified surface, was bounded at a mile distant by a chain of undulating hills, with glens between, well ornamented with timber (as appears by the numerous stumps of old trees) and streams flowing around. The leading character and chief beauty of this parish, and of this fine scenery in particular, were destroyed shortly after the attainder of the Grace family by the mercenary ravages of the

* The exigencies of this unfortunate monarch occasioned the design of using still baser materials in his coinage. It is mentioned in the philosophical transactions that Mr. T. Putland, who obtained an office in the Irish treasury from king William, discovered a bag containing 150 pewter crowns, with this legend upon the rim, "Melioris Tossura Fati. Anno Regni sexto." The victory of the Boyne prevented the circulation of this pewter coinage, of which it is supposed no more than the above 150 pieces were minted.

Proprietors axe which has left above 400 acres of waste unprofitable land to mark the sad reverse in its appearance.

The first William le Gras, lord of Tullaroan and seneschal of Leinster, who married Margaret daughter of Robert Fitz-Warren of Wales, was dead between the years 1210 and 1219; for we find that "William de Gras, eldest son of William de Gras, with the consent of his brothers William de Gras junior,* Hamo de Gras, and Anselm de Gras treasurer of Exeter,† granted between these years certain lands

* Numberless instances occur in Dugdale's and Seagar's printed and MS. works of two brothers bearing the same christian name, "primogenitus" being subjoined to that of the elder, and "junior" to that of the younger. The same custom also prevailed among the Scotch, thus Robert de Bruce, earl of Carrick, and afterwards king of Scotland, had an elder brother of the same name, who lived at the same time; and in the English family of Luvel, we find that John lord Luvel of Tichmersh, the 6th of that name, dying at the age of 20, was succeeded by his brother John lord Luvel the 7th, which 7th John lord Luvel, had also two grandsons living together of the name of William. In the family of Perceval also, Ralf Perceval the elder was slain at the battle of Bosworthfield in 1465, and from his brother Ralf Perceval the younger living at the same time, the earls of Egmont descend. This practice was not wholly abandoned by the highest ranks so late as even the reign of queen Elizabeth, for we find that George Fane of Badseil, who died in 1571, had two sons, both of the name of Thomas, and both knighted. From the elder, Sir T. Fane, the earls of Westmorland descend, and the younger, sir T. Fane, of Burston-castle, county of Kent, was governor of Dover castle for queen Elizabeth in 1598. To this day the custom is far from being in total disuse among the peasantry. In the month of October, 1816, the author of *this section*, while on a visit to the enlightened proprietor of Lydney-park, in Gloucestershire, found instances of the kind in the town of Lydney, which stands on his estate, and he learned that the practice was by no means uncommon, particularly among the inhabitants of the forest of Dean.

† Anselm le Gras, treasurer of Exeter, was present at the erection of that deanery in 1225. He was consecrated bishop of St. David's in

he inherited in Wales, to the priory of Bradenstoke in *Proprietors* Wiltshire.* And we find also the second William earl of Pembroke's charter of foundation to the priory of St. John at Kilkenny witnessed 4. Hen. 3, (1220) by Thomas Fitz-Anthony seneschal of Leinster, William le Gras junior, Hamo le Gras, &c.† and the same earl's great charter of incorporation to the city of Kilkenny 7 Hen. 3. (1223) is again witnessed by William le Gras, and Hamon le Gras, &c.‡

In the deed of partition§ dated 3d of May, 31 Hen. 3. (1247) between the co-heirs of Anselm Marshal the last earl of Pembroke and lord of Leinster, containing the counties palatine of Carlow, Wexford, Kilkenny, Kildare, and Leix, the list of persons possessing these estates in fee runs in the following order :—Matilda, countess of Norfolk and Warren, Johan de Monteganisino, Agnes de Vessye, Matilda de Mortuo Mari, Hugo de Spencer and Eleanor his wife, Jacobus le Botiller, Daniel de Sancto Albino, Radulph Biggott, Edmundus le Gras, Willielmus le Gras, Edmundus le Gras, Gilbert de Clare earl of Gloucester and Hertford and Johan his wife, Roger Bigott earl of Norfolk, Hugh Bigott, John earl

1230, and died 1247. David Fitz-Gerald, uncle to Raymond le Gros, had formerly been bishop of this See, and died 1176. *Vid. Chron. Dover. Mat. Paris.*

* Dugdale's *Monast. Angl.* vol. 2. p. 208.

† *Ib.* vol. 2, page 1044.

‡ *Hanmer's Chronicle*, page 345.

§ Ormond MS. in cast. Kilkenn.

Proprietors of Warren, Hugh le Spencer, (Walter) earl of Ulster, &c.*

William or Edmund le Gras, and Walter Walsh lord of Poble Brenoch (the Walsh mountains) conjointly founded and endowed the monastery of Rosibercon,† situated in the barony of Ibercon, on this side of the river Barrow, opposite to the town of Ross.‡ Friars preachers were first admitted to this monastery, Sept. 19th, 51. of Hen. 3. (1267.) The little monastery of Tullaroan is said to have been a cell to this priory. William le Gras lord of Tullaroan was, 53 Hen. 3. (1268) governor of the palatinate of

* Johnson has observed in his life of Swift, that in reading his journal for the use of Stella, the reader's attention is drawn on by the constant recurrence of names connected with important persons and transactions. Some such charm is felt in perusing these ancient records, as we there see names constantly, which are brought home to our present interests and feelings, as they belong to persons and families either now in actual existence, or existing in the page of history. The history of Ireland, indeed, as a member of the European world, is nothing; but as a history by itself, there are perhaps few which might be rendered more full of matter, curious and diversified, or of interesting facts, bearing more particularly upon the exposition of human manners.

† In the *Hibernia Dominicana*, page 270, Rosibercon Monastery is thus mentioned: "*Cænobii nostri Rosbercanensis fundationem adstruit Warrens, de pago, cui vulgo nomen Ross Ibercan, loquens in hunc modum; "Conventus Fratrum Prædicatorum introductus est anno 1267. Sedet ad Baroum fluvium é regione Ross-Pontis. Succinit Alemandus addens, extractum fuisse cænobium hoc ab Hiberico-Anglicanis familiis de Grace et de Walsh."*

‡ The charter of Roger Bygott earl of Norfolk, &c. to his burgesses of New Ross (nova Rosse) is witnessed by Domino Waltero Porcell, Domino Willielmo le Gras, Domino Ricardo de Rouz, Domino Joh. de Vilers militibus. E Rot. Mem. 34 Eliz. m. 4. vel 5.

Carlow for Roger Bygott, 4th earl of Norfolk, maris-Proprietors
chal of England, the lord thereof,* and 3d of Edward
I. (1275) ; the same country was still governed by a
William le Gras for Roger Bygott the 5th and last
earl of Norfolk.† We find,‡ that William le Gras
was sheriff of the county of Kilkenny, 7th of Edward
I. (1279), and that, 10th Edward I. (1282) he sued
Ivo Leynach for six marks of silver, due to him for
certain lands held of his lordship of Tullaroan. Sir
Edmund le Gras, was, 24th Edward I. (1296) one of
the 21 magnates who were securities to the king for
the fealty of the lord John Fitz-Thomas of Desmond.||
In a plea roll of 25th Edward I. (1297) Ballyregan,
and other lands are stated to have belonged to “ Wil-
lielmo le Gras avo predicti Edmundi.” Among the
barons summoned to parliament, 30th Edward I. (1302),
are Anselm le Gras, Edmund le Gras, and Hamo le
Gras.§ William, the son of Edmund le Gras by his
wife Elena Birmingham, granted, 34th Edward I.
(1306) to Edmund the lord butler of Ireland, all his
lands in Fythard (Fethard) in the county of Tippe-
rary.¶ In 1334 (7th of Edward III.) William le Gras

* Plea rolls in Record Tower, Dublin Castle.

† Ib.

‡ ib.

|| ib.

§ Rot. claus. de ann. 30 Edw. 1. M. 16 in schedula pendentia “ Rex
dilecto et fideli suo, Anselmo le Gras salutem. Volentes in omnem
eventum circiter finem treugæ quam nuper Scottis duximus conceden-
dam, si forte pacis reformatio interim non procedat, de hominibus ad
arma potentibus provideri, ut tunc si opus fuerit in expeditione guerre
nostræ Scotie viriliter procedere, et eam deo proprio possimus finaliter
terminare quedam negotia, &c. &c. teste Rege apud Morpeth, XXIII^a
die Februarii.

¶ Ormond MSS. in Kilkenny castle.

Proprietors junior, and Edmund le Gras his brother paid 10 marks at the suit of John Fitz-William le Gras.* On the 27th of January, 1355, (29th of Edward III.) William le Gras junior, and Oliver Howell were appointed by patent to be the two custodes pacis of the county of Kilkenny†—and John le Gras was empowered by a commission, dated at Naas on the 6th of March, 4th Richard II. (1381) to assemble and array all the inhabitants of the county of Kilkenny having temporalties there, and to treat with Irish enemies and English rebels,‡ to muster forces as often

* Pipe Roll in Tur. Record.---In the historical essay on the knighthood of the Bath, p. 62, we find that James Butler de Hibernia, and John le Gras, were made knights of the Bath at London, on the 19th of April 19 Edward II. (1326.)

† Rot. Pat. de an. 29 Edw. III.

‡ It is curious to observe, in the proceedings towards the native chiefs and their septs, a marked difference between the political pretensions of the English government to a superiority over them and the formal language of the English law. In numerous commissions similar to that to sir John le Gras, addressed to the nobles and sheriffs within the pale, the distinction is continually made between Irish enemies and English rebels. The same distinction is also observed in the grants of pardon, agreements, submissions, &c. which usually followed the tumults within or without the pale. The crown, however, through its civil governors and military commanders, seems always to have claimed, either openly or by implication, as from vassals, all the incidents of that feudal superiority to which the first submissions of the Irish chiefs entitled it under a strict interpretation of the feudal institutions. These vassals themselves rather eluded than rejected the claim, though it would not perhaps be an easy matter to shew, that of the numerous services or duties devolving upon them in that character, they ever performed or paid any, except a few solitary instances of military attendance upon the standard of their liege lord. Yet, as liege lord, it was, apparently, that the sovereign seized in forfeiture not only the territory of the earl of Desmond, plainly liable

as was necessary, to arrest, imprison and punish all Proprietors refractory persons, and to do such other things as appeared necessary for the public peace. King Richard II. granted his licence,* dated at Trim the 23d of December in the 8th year of his reign (1385), to baron Almaric Gras lord of Grace's country, "for the better preservation of the peace of the county of Kilkenny," to marry Tibina, daughter of O'Meagher the dynast or prince of Ikerrin,† styled in the patent "an Irishman and captain of his nation or sept,‡ all

to that penalty, but likewise the dominions of the O'Neals and the O'Donnells, who both inherited from a long line of ancestors, and in their formal intercourse with the English government, had been treated with as public enemies, rather than as rebellious subjects.

* "Ricardus &c. omnibus Ballivis, &c. Sciatis quod de gratia nostra speciali et pro melioratione pacis nostri comitatus Kylkenniensis concessimus et licentiam dedimus Almarico Gras Baroni de Gras quod ipse Tibinam filiam O'Meagher Hibernici suæ nationis Capitanei ducere possit in uxorem, quibuscunque statutis, ordinationibus, &c. &c. Rot. Pat. Cancel. 9°. Ric. 2. m. 16.

† Hy Kerin, autrement Ikerrin, territoire a present barronie dans le comté de Tipperary, borné au couchant par l'Ormond supérieur, au midi par la barronie d'Eliogurty, au nord et a l'est par les comtes du Roi et de la Reine, pays des O'Meaghers, de la race de Hibert, par Kiann fils d'Orioll-Olum (roi de Munster.) Mac-Geoghegan Hist. d'Irlande, tom. 1. p. 216.

‡ The feudal dignities of captain and tanist were found to exist in Ireland on the Strongbonian invasion, and so late as the reign of queen Elizabeth, they were occasionally recognised as legitimate ranks, and even confirmed by royal patent to particular chieftains. Mac Morough Kavanagh was acknowledged captain of his nation, and, as such, was permitted to have a body guard of hoblers (horse) and kerns (foot) in the same patent that created him baron of Ballyan. In virtue also of eight successive royal patents from the 8th year of Edward III. confirmed by several other records, the heads of this family, as chiefs of their sept or nation, received down to the reign of Henry

Proprietors laws to the contrary notwithstanding.* By this marriage baron Almaric Gras had issue John Gras his

VIII. inclusively an annual subsidiary sum of 80 marks, granted in perpetuity by the British crown for their services in maintaining the British laws in their country. Their hereditary jurisdiction or captaincy, with the right of coining money, are likewise acknowledged by these patents. The captain or prince was the governing lord and the tanist was the heir apparent of his power. He was simply denominated from the name of his sept, as the O'Meagher, the O'More, the O'Neal, the O'Brien, the Mac Morough, &c.—After the extinction of the regal title among the native Irish, that of captain was the highest degree of pre-eminence to which the immediate family or descendants of their ancient kings aspired. Thus Shane Dymas O'Neal preferred it to that of earl of Tyrone, which, as he accepted in his adversity for purposes of policy, so he abandoned with contempt to resume and exercise the power of his more princely title of O'Neal. The author of the *Fairy Queen* has described the mode of succession to this elective family dignity, and he might very possibly have been an eye-witness to what he so minutely details.

Eudox. What is this which you call tanist and tanistry? these be names and terms never heard of nor known to us.

Iren. It is a custome amongst all the Irish, that, presently after the death of one of their chief lords or captains, they doe presently assemble themselves to a place generally appointed and knowne unto them, to choose another in his stead, where they do nominate and elect, for the most part, not the eldest sonne, nor any of the children of the lord deceased, but the next to him in blood, that is, the eldest and worthiest, as commonly the next brother unto him, if he have any, or the next cousin, or so forth, as any is elder in that kindred; and next to him do they choose the next of the blood to be tanist, who shall next succeed him in the said captaincy, if he live thereunto.

Eudox. Do they not use any ceremony in this election, for all barbarous nations are commonly great observers of ceremonies and superstitious rites?

Iren. They use to place him that shall be their captaine upon a stone, always reserved to that purpose, and placed commonly upon a hill; in some of which I have seen formed and engraven a foot, which they say was the measure of their first captain's foot; whereon hee standing, receives an oath to preserve all the auncient former customs of the countrey inviolable, and to deliver up the succession peaceably to his tanist, and then hath a wand delivered unto him by some whose

* See next page.

successor in the lordship of Tullaroan. He appears Proprietors to have been a benefactor to the priory of Glascarrig in the county of Wexford, and of St. John in Kilkenny and dying before 1401, in the latter of these places

“ A tomb, with gothic sculpture fair,
Did long lord *Almaric's* image bear :
His martial figure there was found,
His feet upon a couchant hound,
His hands to heaven upraised ;
And all around, on scutcheon rich,
And tablet carved, and fretted niche,
His arms and seals were blazed.”

Scott's Marmion, canto 6, stanza 36.

Some remains of this monument were standing in 1790.†

proper office that is; after which, descending from the stone, he turneth himself round, thrice forwards and thrice backwards.

Eudox. But how is the tanist chosen ?

Iren. They say he setteth but one foot upon the stone, and receiveth the like oath that the captaine did. —Vid. *Spencer's View of the state of Ireland*, apud works, Lond. 1605. vol. viii. p. 306.

* See preceding p. When Alexander the great had subverted the throne of Darius, he soon began to take the necessary measures for securing his own. His policy was such as might be expected from perhaps the keenest spirit and most sagacious mind, to which the mastership of men was ever committed. He promoted the marriages of his officers with the Persian ladies by precept, by favour and by example. Not so our English conquerors of Ireland. They sternly prohibited by every sort of penalty the union of the two races either by marriage or by the practice of fosterage. It is at the same time whimsical, that the only title of the English was derived from the marriage of Strongbow with Eva. The sword indeed, afterwards wrote a pretty large commentary, in characters of blood, upon the marriage contract. In defence of the prohibitory system alluded to it has been asserted, that the liege lord, from whom the land was held in these feudal times by the tenure of military service, might be injured by such services being diverted or lost. The policy of the pale made it even high treason by the statute of Kilkenny, for an Englishman to contract a marriage with an Irish family. Some few instances, however, occur of exceptions being

† General Charles Vallancey's MS. Collectanea Hib.

Proprietors The sheriff of the county of Kilkenny was directed, 8th Henry IV. (1407) to compel John Gras baron of Tullaroan to discharge the different sums due by him to the king,* and in three years afterwards (11th Henry IV. 1410) we find John Gras baron of Tullaroan constituted the *custos pacis* of Kilkenny. His successor was Anselm Gras, who was appointed by a commission dated 23d of June, 9th Henry V. (1421) sheriff of the county of Kilkenny during the king's pleasure.† He married Alicia daughter of sir James Morres lord of Lateragh, in the county of Tipperary,‡ and had issue Oliver Gras baron of Tullaroan, who was *custos pacis* of Kilkenny, 19th Edw. IV. (1470). The dauntless spirit and inflexible justice of baron Oliver Gras acquired the admiration and attachment of the native Irish, and his personal characteristic obtained from them the soubriquet of "ny Fesoig," i. e. bearded. These sentiments and his subsequent influence we may suppose were greatly strengthened by his marriage with Ellen the daughter of O'More,§ dynast or sovereign

made to this despotic law, similar to that in favour of baron Almaric Gras, while the punishment of its unauthorised violation may be seen in the execution of Thomas, 8th earl of Desmond, in 1417, "for having broken his allegiance by an Irish alliance and fosterage."

* Rex &c. Vicecomiti Kilkenniensi ad distringendum Johannem Gras Baronem de Tullaghrohan ad satisfaciendum Regi de diversis summis occasione utlagarii Johannis Middleton clerici nobis pertinentis, &c. &c. Ex Mem. Rot. 8 Hen. 4.

† E. Rotul. Patent. Cancel. Hib. an. reg. Hen. 5. 9^o. 10^o.

‡ Genealogical collections of sir William Betham, in the office of Ulster king of arms.

§ The following account of the origin of this family is taken from an ancient, unique, and curious folio MS. deposited in the office of

prince of Leix, one of the noblest and most distinguished of their regal families. By this lady he had

arms, and entitled "Roger O'Ferrall's Linea Antiqua, or a genealogical, chronological and historical account of the Gathelian, Milesian, Scottish or Irish people or nation, &c."

"Loisach Lannmor, the brother of Irial Glunmar, and the younger son of Conall Cearnach, was born at the Newry, and fostered by Eocha Fiom, brother of Conneed Chatbach, the 110th monarch of Ireland, until he came to man's estate. This prince proving a great warrior was, with his said foster-father, united by Cu-chorb king of Leinster, to aid him against the king of Munster, who with a powerful army had invaded his country, and did much mischief, until they came to his relief, and in three battles defeated the king of Munster's army, driving what remained alive of them out of Leinster. For this good service the king of Leinster did bestow upon Lysach and his posterity the territories called after his name, the seven Leases or Leixes (now the Queen's county) and the rank of hereditary general of his army, which the O'Mores enjoyed, and were styled kings of Lease or Leix until the invasion of the English, to whom this family (zealous and stout assertors of their country's liberty) could never be brought to an entire submission, but upon every opportunity raised troubles and wars, until at length they lost their lives, liberties and estates together, insomuch that of an heroic and populous family, their names and memory are almost buried in oblivion, and the books of their antiquities where their noble acts and exploits with their pedigrees were recorded being also lost, little now remains but the catalogue of the names of their descent."

The territory of Leix mentioned in this MS. comprehended nearly the whole of the Queen's county, and the seven septs are said to have been the O'Mores, who were dynasts or princes, the O'Kelly's, the O'Lalors, the Devoy's, the Maccaboys, the O'Dorans, and the O'Dowlings, all of whom were tributary and vassals to the reigning dynast.

The greatness of the O'More family previous to the year 1600, may be inferred from the direct alliances it formed with the noble houses of Kildare, Ormond, Tyrone (O'Neal) Kingsland, Glanmalyn and others. It is stated in the dissertation on the ancient history of Ireland that "the actions of the O'Mores of Leix, might fill a history of considerable extent, nor could the English pale reckon itself secure

Proprietors baron John Gras Fitz-Oliver his successor, Oliver Gras Fitz-Oliver abbot of Jerpoint in this county, and James Gras Fitz-Oliver, referred to in the grant* from the vicars of St. Kennys in Kilkenny, dated 12th of October, 15th Henry VII. (1500), to James Gras son of baron Gras, and to Ellis his wife “ of Corristown for the term of 70 years, which grant on the 23d of September, 34th Henry VIII.” (1543) was renewed † for sixty-one years to James Gras Fitz-James, who married Ellen daughter of sir Oliver Morres lord of Lateragh in the county of Tipperary, by Ellis his wife, 4th daughter of Pierce Butler, 8th earl of Ormond. By an act of the lord deputy and council of Ireland, dated at Kilmainham, 23d of May, 8th Elizabeth (1566), this James Grace was empowered to transfer to the queen the possession of Grace’s castle in Kilkenny, in order “ that the said strong building might be converted into a county goal,” and in consideration thereof her majesty makes the offices of chief constable and master of Grace’s castle to be hereditary in his family, and likewise grants all manner of fees, duties, commodities and profits to him and his heirs, together with the yearly salary of twenty nobles, payable for ever out

till their enemies (the O’Mores) were removed in the reign of Philip and Mary.” In civilization, talent, and political consequence, this family is said to have greatly excelled the other native chieftains, and the ruins of the many splendid religious and military edifices throughout the Queen’s county, evince a degree of taste and munificence highly illustrative of this characteristic pre-eminence. Since the death of James O’More of Ballina, esq. the representative of the princes of Leix is Garrett O’More of Cloghan castle, in the King’s county, esq.

* Ormond MSS. in cast. Kilken. † Ib.

of the estates of the dissolved house of St. John near Proprietors Kilkenny, by the sovereign and corporation of that city for the time being—John Grace Fitz Oliver of Grace's court was appointed, 7th Henry VIII. (1516), escheator of the county of Kilkenny, during the king's pleasure. The grant of baron Oliver Gras to James Gras (apparently his younger son above-mentioned) of certain lands and houses in and near Kilkenny, including probably Grace's castle, was confirmed, 11th Henry VIII. (1520), by baron John Gras Fitz-Oliver,* who appears, from having acquired the *nomme de guerre* of "*Grasagh an crios iarionn*" (iron belted Grace), to have inherited the proverbial strength, as well as the military and fearless disposition of his family. It will be immediately recollected, that physical strength was no less necessary to a feudal chieftain than the qualities which establish a moral superiority. In the court, the wiliness of the counsellor might go far; in the field the arm alone was able to decide the question; and at the period here mentioned, the arena of contention was pretty constantly placed under the canopy of Heaven, with the god of battles for the judge. By his wife Catharine, daughter or sister of Pierce Poer lord of Curraghmore, baron John Gras Fitz-Oliver is said to have had twenty-one children; the eldest of whom, baron John Gras Fitz-John, was his successor in the lordship of Tullaroan. Among the other sons was Pierce Grace, a man of great personal strength and courage, who was killed in one of the border frays, which the implacable feud that had long raged between this family and that of Fitz-Patrick often occasioned. In the

* *Ib.*

Proprietors same fight was slain "Robert the brother of their bard,"

Whose gladsome harp and lively lay
Bade winter night flit fast away.

Scott's Rokeby, p. 154.

This feud appears to have been the frequent source of bloodshed till the reign of James I., when the power of the laws having nearly obtained complete omnipotence, suppressed these sanguinary and lawless habits of feudal revenge. We may suppose this hereditary animosity to have entirely subsided when Tirlagh Fitz-Patrick, third son of Thady 4th lord of Upper-Ossory, who died in 1627, married Onora the daughter of baron Oliver Grace of Courtstown. From sir Oliver Grace (another of baron John Gras Fitz-Oliver's younger sons) designated by the peasantry to this day, "*Grasagh ciallvur an Legan*" (the wise Grace of the Leagan) the branch formerly of Ballylinch and Leagan in this county, and now of Gracefield in the Queen's county is descended.*

Ballylinch
branch.

* This sir Oliver Grace of Leagan and Ballylinch castles near Thomastown in this county, and of Carney castle near Nenagh in the county of Tipperary, married Mary, sister of sir Maurice Fitz-Gerald, created lord viscount Decies, 11th of Elizabeth (1589) and eldest daughter of sir Gerald Fitz-Gerald, 3d lord of Decies, by his wife Eleanor, daughter of Pierce Butler, 8th earl of Ormond. Sir Gerald the 1st lord of Decies, this sir Gerald's grandfather, was the 2d son of James, 7th earl of Desmond. Sir Oliver Grace† was succeeded at

† The three following epitaphs, though sufficiently apposite (as relating to the direct descendants of the lords of Tullaghbrohan in the younger branch) will however in themselves, we hope, be found a justifiable apology for the irregularity of carrying our readers beyond the parish boundaries.

I. Hic jacet Oliverius Grace miles, quondam Dominus de Leagan, Carney, &c. ex antiquissima, nobilissimaque familia Gracæorum, scilicet de Courtstown, oriundus. Pace, belloque conspicuus, et plurimis virtutibus animi corporisque dotibus imprimis spectatus. Domina

Sir Oliver Grace was denominated of "the Leagan" Proprietors in this county, and also of Carney-castle in the co. of

Ballylinch, &c. by his eldest son Gerald Grace, who died 4th of March Ballylinch 16th of James 1st. (1618) leaving issue (by Margaret, daughter of sir branch. Robert Hartpole of Shrute castle, in the Queen's county) Oliver Grace of Ballylinch, &c. who died 27th of August, 1st of Charles I. (1628) leaving issue (by Margaret, daughter of Edmund Butler, 2d lord vis-

Maria Fitz-Gerald ob memoriam mariti sui hoc monumentum posuit.

Vivit post funera virtus.

Si generis fama aut virtus aut gratia formæ,

Si doctrina micat splendida præter opes,

Si decus armorum sit maximus inter honores;

Omnibus ille fuit dives in orbe bonis.

Dotibus his raris haud clarior extitit alter,

Sed nunc virtutis dona beatus habet.

If in this inscription, as well as in any other here given, the eye of the critic should detect any error or anomaly, he should in all fairness recollect the period and the place. The court of Elizabeth, splendid as it was in its statesmen and its warriors, and boasting also women worthy of those great men's homage and admiration, could not yet have shed its influence so far. Of lord Burleigh, himself learned and the patron of learning, the daughters were distinguished by their literary acquirements: but with all this, it must be immediately perceived, that in a province, remote and most contentiously conditioned, the opportunities of obtaining literary assistance, must have been limited in number, and of no very easy access. We may indeed feel grateful, when the history of Ireland during the seventeenth century is considered, that any memorials in any shape, have survived to our use and information. That the very tombs themselves have remained, is matter of some wonder, as well as of gratulation. Doubtless it may be said of many, very many monuments in Ireland, that "*etiam perire ruinae.*"—But to return to our immediate subject. "*Si generis fama, aut &c.*" In this hexameter we have a brief description of a man endued with all the accomplishments of mind and body, and excelling in them to the highest degree. "*Si doctrina micat, &c.*" That learning was beginning to be appreciated in this country, this line seems to imply; "*Præter opes,*" it was preferable to worldly wealth, but the first place in the roll of fame was still reserved for

Proprietors Tipperary, where and in the King's co. he was likewise seized of very considerable possessions. He was re-

Ballylinch count Mountgarret) Gerald Grace of Ballylinch, &c. a minor, aged 13, in ward to sir Thomas Loftus of Killyan, who paid thereon the fine of 500l. to the court of wards and liveries. Gerald Grace served in the army of his uncle the lord Mountgarret, and was slain at the battle of Kiltrush 10th of April 17th Charles I (1642) leaving issue (by Ellen,

warlike achievements, for in the next line we are told, hypothetically indeed, "*Si decus armorum sit maximus inter honores*," the subject of the inscription was decorated with that also; and thus endowed, the conclusion respecting him is very justly drawn, "*Omni-bus ille fuit dives in orbe bonis*." But rich and great as are these advantages, there are others still greater and more rich, for of the two last lines,

*Dotibus his raris haud clarior extitit alter,
Sed nunc virtutis dona beatus habet—*

the second tells, that in his present and advanced state he possesses in beatitude, the rewards of virtue. In the 2d line "*præter opes*" exhibits rather an unusual use of this preposition, but it is so used by Cicero, "*præter cæteros excellit*," he excels above all others, and thus Plautus, "*quia erat forma præter cæteras honesta et liberali, &c.*" In the 3d line, "*Si decus armorum sit maximus, &c.*" id est, "*si decus armorum sit maximus honor inter honores*." I do not recollect a passage of similar construction. We read, I think in Quintus Curtius, "*Maximus fluminum Indus*," but this is the reverse.

II. Hic jacet, certa spe resurgendi, Domina Maria Fitz-Gerald, nobilissimi Geraldii Fitz-Gerald militis quondam Baronis de Decies† filia et vidua clarissimi Oliverii Grace militis quondam Domini de Legan, Ballylinch et Carney; cui peperit Geraldum Grace nunc Dominum de Legan, &c. qui hoc monumentum fieri fecit.

* Stirpe Geraldina fuit hæc exorta Maria,
Nobilis hospicio, moribus atque domo,
Larga parens miseris, pietate dedita summo,
Grata Deo summum clauserat illa Diem.
Obiit II^o die Decembris M,DC,V.

† For this note see page 550.

turned 12th of January, 1st of Elizabeth (1559), to Proprietors represent the county of Tipperary in parliament, and

eldest daughter and eventual co-heir to Edmund Butler, 3d lord Dunboyne, by his wife Margaret, daughter and heir to Thomas Butler 4th lord Cabier) 1st. John Grace of Ballylinch, who died without issue, and 2d. William Grace of Ballylinch, whose great estates in the counties of Kilkenny and Tipperary, and also in the King's and Queen's Ballylinch branch.

"*Stirpe Geraldinâ, &c.*" The house of Fitz-Gerald or Geraldine in its two great branches of Kildare and Desmond, might at one period be pronounced the greatest private family in Europe. Nearly the whole of the county of Kildare was the patrimony of the one, and the attainder of Gerald the 16th earl of Desmond in 1582, transferred to queen Elizabeth an hereditary estate of 574,628 English acres, besides the royal jurisdiction of the largest palatinate any subject of the crown of England enjoyed, excepting that of Leinster by the earls of Pembroke of the De Clare and Marshall families. When ancestry was still of weight a "Geraldine origin" may therefore be supposed to have been a subject of some pride, and in this instance before us it might have been peculiarly so, as this lady's descent was drawn from these powerful earls palatinate of Desmond, her father Gerald the 3d lord of Decies being the grandson and heir of Gerald the 1st lord of Decies, who was second son of James the 7th earl of Desmond. "*Hæc exorta Maria &c.*" The word *hæc* appears to intrude here uncalled for: it might however be a mistake of the stone cutter; the best way to remedy it would be to put a comma after *exorta*; or indeed, the substitution of the word *hinc*, would afford a full remedy. "*Moribus atque domo.*" On the stone we read *maribus*, but the verse will not admit of such reading; besides *moribus* makes better sense, and must obviously have been the meaning of the writer.

" ————— *Summo*

Grata deo summum clausurat illa diem."

in the same spirit of resignation are the concluding lines of a little epitaph on a monument in the Grace Mausoleum at Arles, to her lineal descendant Oliver Grace of Shanganagh, who died in 1708,

" ————— *Sponte remotus erat.*"

So that piety appears very distinctly to have been a family characteristic, which with its loyalty threw it from many a high possession.

Proprietors obtained a grant by patent, dated 28th of September, 5th of Elizabeth (1563), of the site, estates and livings

Ballylinch counties, were seized and confiscated, by Cromwell chiefly, during the branch. lifetime of his brother John. He died about 1669, leaving issue (by Eleanor, sister of Edward Butler, 2d lord viscount Galmoy, and daughter of the honorable Pierce Butler) 1st. Oliver Grace, who resided at Shanganagh in the Queen's county, of whom presently, and

But the praise and the merits of sincerity are of still more value than the loftiest possessions, and in this sentiment their descendant entirely acquiesces. He cannot, in course, be insensible to the loss of the vast wealth and consequence of which the family has been deprived by the sacrifice thus made; but he is still more sensible of the pride which the virtue of his ancestors excited and upholds. In reference to this last line of the epitaph it may not be irrelevant to cite here a passage from the fifth book of the epistles of James de la Croix to a friend on the death of his son, "*cum Jobo dicamus, Jehova dedit, et Jehovah recepit, sit nomen Jehovæ benedictum; et cum Davide, obmutesco non aperio os meum, quoniam tu id fecisti. Non mirum Ethnicos mortem amicorum tantopere lamentari, cum universalem carnis humanæ resurrectionem non credant; nos vero Christi evangelio melius docti, non solum amicos placide in domino mortui, carnisque suæ resurrectionem expectantibus, at nobis quoque hoc nomine gratulari, ac gaudere debemus.*"

† See p. 558. The following genealogical extract from a curious original MS. in the possession of P. Walsh of Belline, esq. containing an account of the illustrious families of Desmond and Decies, never having appeared in print, will be found for so much to supply many considerable chasms in the history and pedigree of these distinguished branches of the house of Fitz-Gerald, as given by Lodge, Archdall, Smith, and other writers. "But now to come to the family of Decies: James, the 7th Earl of Desmond, was married to Mary Bourke, daughter to William Mc Igher, by whom he had two sons. The eldest was Thomas the earl, beheaded in 1467, at Drogheda, as before mentioned, and Gerald of Desmond, sometimes called Garret Fitz-Earl, sometimes Garret Fitz-James, and sometimes Garret-more of the Decies. I. This Garret-more Fitz-Earl, was ancestor to the lords of the Decies, and from him are they lineally descended. I have seen an ancient deed of

in the counties of Tipperary, Kilkenny, the King's Proprietors county and elsewhere, of the dissolved priory of St.

2d. John Grace, who married Anne, the daughter and heir of John Grace of Thomastown, and had issue an only daughter Elizabeth Grace married to Richard Gamon of Datchworthbury, county of Herts, who died in 1786, leaving issue a daughter, Anna-Eliza, married to James 3d duke of Chandos, (whose only child lady Anna Eliza Brydges, Gracefield branch.

James, the 7th earl of Desmond, of all his lands in the Decies and co. of Waterford, and of certain lands in the co. of Limerick, to this Garret Fitz-James his son. Also a deed of Maurice Fitz-Thomas de Geraldinis generos. to Gerald Fitz-Earl of Desmond, and Margaret Butler his wife, of the lands of Gascoignes, dated July 12, 23d Edw. IV. (1483.) This Garret-more (or the great), was married to Margaret Butler, daughter of Mac Richard, of the house of Ormond, grand-child to sir Richard Butler, to whom king Richard was godfather. By her he had issue four sons; 1st. John of the Decies, 2d. Gerald of Ballyogerny, 3d. Maurice of Rincrew, ob. s. p. 4th. Thomas of Ballyling, ob. s. p. II. John Fitz-Garret Fitz-Earl, succeeded his father in the possession of the estate of the Decies, though I find not when his said father died, but by the dates of several deeds it is evident, he lived in the reigns of Hen. VI. Edw. IV. Edw. V. and of Rich. III. being four kings of England. I saw a deed indented made by Patrick Fitz-David Condon, captain of his nation, unto this John Fitz-Garret, and his heirs, of the manor of Ballydydawyr in pledge for "triginta marcorum ster." dated 18th Jannary, 7th Hen. VIII. (1514). This John Fitz Garret Fitz-Earl, was married to Ellen Fitz-Gibbon als. Fitz-Gerald, daughter of the white knight, by whom he had issue Garret Fitz-John, who was slain and died without issue, a daughter named Catharine, who was wife to the 3d son of Thomas lord Slayne of Drogheda, and his heyre sir Gerald Fitz-John of the Decies. III. Sir Gerald Fitz-John succeeded his father in the estate of the Decies, and died 1st. of Mary (1553), as appears by an inquisition taken at Magdalen College, near the city of Waterford, 25th of May, 17th Eliz. (1575). He had to wife Ellice Butler, daughter to Pierce, 8th earl of Ormond, by whom he had four daughters and three sons. The daughters were, Mary, wife to sir Oliver Grace of Ballylinch, in the county of Kilkenny, where yet stands engraven on a chimney piece this inscription, 'Maria Fitz-Gerald me fieri fecit, 1603. Spes mea in solo Deo.'

Proprietors John near Nenagh, which his posterity enjoyed till the regal despotism of Charles was supplanted by the

Gracefield branch. married Richard Grenville 2d marquis of Buckingham, and had issue Richard earl Temple, married to Mary, 2d daughter of John Campbell, 4th earl of Breadalbane) and a son sir Richard Gamon, bart. M. P. for Winchester, created a baronet of England 11th of April, 1795, with remainder to Richard Grace of Southville, in the Queen's co. esq.

She lies buried in Jerpoint Abbey, where her tombstone is, on which is engraven the coat of arms of this family. She bears ermine, a saltire gules engrailed, with this epitaph :

Stirpe Geraldina fuit hæc exorta Maria

Nobilis hospicio, moribus atque domo.

Larga parens miseris pietati dedita summo :

Grata Deo summum clauserat illa diem.

Obiit 2d December, 1605.

The 2d daughter was named Catharine, wife to Mac Carthy, called Mac Donogh-more ; the 3d. Joane, wife to James Fitz-Garret Fitz-Thomas, 8th earl of Desmond, and the 4th. Ellen, wife to James Fitz-Gerald of Shroneccally, in the county of Waterford. The three sons were, 1st. sir Maurice ; 2d, James, and 3d, Garret. IV. This sir Maurice, after his father's death, was aged 23, and was seized and possessed of his inheritance ; and for services by him done to the crowns of England and Ireland, was by queen Elizabeth, in the 11th year of her reign (1569) by patent, dated 27th of January, created baron of Dromany ; and by another patent, bearing date the last day of the same January, was created viscount Desses, which patents I have seen and read. He was first married to Joane, daughter of the lord Rock, but having no issue by her, repudiated her, or turned her off, and afterwards took to wife Ellen of Desmond, daughter of John earl of Desmond, 4th son of earl Thomas, beheaded at Drogheda, by neither of whom he had issue. After his death, which was December 23d, 1572, sir James Fitz-Gerald, as brother and heir to the said lord viscount Decies (whose honour died with him, it being granted only to him and the heirs male of his body) succeeded to the estate of the Decies, and removed from Cappagh to Dromany, where he died 16th of December, 24th Eliz. (1551). He married Ellen Mac Carthy, daughter of Mac Carthy Reagh, and by her had issue Garret his heir,

protectoral oppression of Cromwell. On this occasion a sacrifice of no ordinary magnitude was made

M. P. of whom hereafter. Sir Richard Gamon died 8th of April, 1818, having married lady Amelia Murray, daughter of the duke of Athol, by whom he had an only child Charlotte Amelia Gammon. Oliver Grace of Shanganagh (now Gracefield) was high sheriff of the Queen's county, M. P. for the borough of Ballynakill, chief

Maurice and Gerald, who died without issue, and a daughter Ellen, who died unmarried. V. Garret Fitz-Gerald was aged 15, at his father's death, and was in ward to the earl of Ormond, who sold the said Garret his wardship to the lord Power, baron of Curraghmore, who married him to his daughter Ellen Power, who died without issue. He afterwards married Honora, daughter of the lord Barry, by whom he had no issue. This is the lord of Decies mentioned in the *Pacata Hibernia*; he having no issue, carelessly and profusely mangled and damaged the estate of the Decies. It is said he gave new Affane to sir Walter Raleigh for a breakfast. He died 9th September, 1600, and his estate descended to sir John Fitz-Gerald, who was aged 30, his cousin german, and son of Garret of Templehill, the 3d son of sir Gerald Fitz-John Fitz-Garret, of Desmond, by Ellinor Butler, daughter of John Butler, of Derelieskane, in the co. of Kilkenny, esq. who was his married wife. Sir John Fitz-Gerald of the Decies, married Ellen Fitz-Maurice Fitz-Gerald, daughter to Maurice Fitz-John the white knight, who being a careful, industrious, and provident woman, treasured up much riches, by which the said estate was again recovered. Thus sir John became the restorer of the family of the Decies to a considerable estate, though not answerable to what his ancestors had formerly enjoyed. He died at Dromany, May 24th, 18th of James (1620), and was buried at Youghall church, leaving issue one son, John Oge, and eight daughters, viz. 1st. Ellen, wife to the earl of Barrymore, and after his death to the lord Courcy. 2d. Eleanor, wife to Pierce Fitz-Walter Butler of Clare, county of Tipperary, esq. son of the earl of Ormond. 3d. Katharine, wife to James Prendergast of Newcastle, county of Tipperary, esq. 4th. Julian, wife to John Power of Doneile, county of Waterford, esq. 5th. Joan, wife to Anthony O'Dwyre of Killmenenogh, county of Tipperary, esq. 6th. Amyne, wife to Theobald Butler of Knockenarding, county of Tipperary, whence is the present lord Cahier descended. 7th. Ellice, wife to the then lord Cahier, who dying, she after married sir

Proprietors at the shrine of loyalty or of conscience in the forfeiture of above seventeen thousand acres of land.

Gracefield branch. remembrancer of the exchequer of Ireland, and a member of the privy council to king James II. He died 8th of June, 1708, aged 47, having married Elizabeth (re-married to Edmund, 6th viscount Mountgarret), only surviving child of John Bryan of Bawnmore, county of Kilkenny, by his 2d wife Ursula, 2d daughter, and eventual co-heir to

Thomas Esmond of Ardtraman, county of Wexford, bart.; and 8th, Mary, wife to Patrick lord Courcy, baron of Kinsale; all or most of whom have a numerous issue living at this day. VI. John Oge Fitz-Gerald, or John the younger, was at his father's death 28 years old, and married to Ellinor Butler, eldest daughter of James, lord baron of Dunboyne, and had issue Garret his heir, and three daughters, Eleanor, Mary, and Margaret; he died 1st of March, 2d Charles I. (1625), and was interred at Youghall. VII. Garret Fitz-Gerald was a minor at his father's death, and in ward to sir Edward Villiers, knight, lord president of Munster, (elder brother by a former ventre to the then George duke of Buckingham), and was sent for education into England, where he was bred up in the protestant religion, which he everafter adhered to. He married the lady Mabella Digby, daughter of sir Robert Digby, of Coleshill-hall, in Warwickshire, knight, by the lady Letitia Fitz-Gerald dowager of Gerald Lord Ophaley, eldest son of Gerald, earl of Kildare. He died 6th of August, 1643, and was buried at Dungarvan church on the right side of the chancel, leaving one son John Fitz-Gerald a minor of one year, six months and six days old, and a daughter Letitia married to captain Richard Franklin, an Englishman, serving in Oliver Cromwell's own regiment as a captain of horse. VIII. John Fitz-Garret Fitz-Gerald (the eighth in descent from James, the 7th earl palatine of Desmond, and the tenth and last lord of Decies) was ward by gift of king Charles I. to Murrongh, lord Inchiquin, and was sent to Eton college, near Windsor, in England, for education. In November 1658, he married the lady Catharine Power, daughter of John Power, lord baron of Curraghmore, and sister to Richard lord Power, now earl of Tyrone. She died in child-bed of her only child Katharine, in August 1660, and lies buried at Youghall. In 1661, he was chosen a parliament man for the borough of Dungarvan; and in March 1662, he married, 2ndly the lady Ellen Mac Carthy, daughter of Dagh, then earl of Clancarty.

How often has “ the angel of wrath passed over this devoted country with the besom of destruction, smit- Proprietors

Walter Walsh of Castle Hoel, by his wife Magdalen Sheffield, sister of Edmund Sheffield, 2d earl of Mulgrave, and grand aunt and eventual sole heir to Edmund Sheffield, 2d duke of Buckingham, by whom he had issue Michael Grace of Gracefield, who died 19th of February 1760, leaving issue (by Mary, daughter of John Galway of Lota Gracefield branch.

and now countess of Clairickarde; but by her he had no issue. On the 1st of February, 1662, he came to the full age of 21 years, and died 1st of March in the same year, at the castle of Dromany, and was buried at Youghali church. IX. Katharine Fitz-Gerald, sole daughter and heir to the aforesaid John, 10th lord of the Decies, was about two years and a half old, at her father's death, and in ward to Richard Power, lord Power of Curraghmore. She was married, by his grace Gilbert archbishop of Canterbury, at the age of 12 years, to John, the eldest son of the said Richard lord Power, who was not much above seven years of age, and for this reason the lord Power was at the same time created viscount Decies, as well as earl of Tyrone. But on the 25th of March, 1765, she relinquished the guardianship of the earl of Tyrone, and renounced before the aforesaid archbishop of Canterbury, her former solemnized marriage to John Power lord Decies, by reason of her childhood; she being then a woman near 15 years of age. On the 25th of March, 1676, the said Katharine Fitz-Gerald, heiress of the Decies, was again married to Mr. Edward Villiers, eldest son of George, third viscount Grandison, who is 2d son to sir Edward Villiers, lord president of Munster, formerly guardian to Garret Fitz-Gerald, the 9th lord of Decies, grandfather to the said Katharine”. With this marriage the MS. terminates, but having come so far, it may not be uninteresting to continue the descent to the present time. This George Villiers, 3d viscount Grandison, married in 1660, lady Mary Leigh, daughter and co-heir to Francis earl of Chichester, and had the said Edward Fitz-Gerald Villiers, who died before him in 1693, leaving issue John, 4th viscount Grandison, and 12th lord of the Decies. In 1721, he was created earl of Grandison, and marrying Frances, daughter of Anthony Carey, viscount Falkland, had issue two sons, who ob. s. p. and a daughter lady Elizabeth Fitz-Gerald Villiers, heiress of the Decies, created in 1767 countess Grandison of Dromana, in the co. of Waterford. She married in 1739,

Proprietors ing its first born, and filling every quarter of it with woe and desolation !”

Gracefield branch. county of Cork, by his wife Elizabeth, eldest sister of sir John Meade of Ballintobber, bart.) 1st. Oliver Grace of Gracefield, of whom presently, and 2d. William Grace, who married Mary, daughter and eventual heir to Richard Harford of Dublin, and died 23d of November,

Aland John Mason, esq. and dying in 1782, her son George became earl of Grandison, and 14th lord of Decies. In 1774, he married lady Gertrude Conway, daughter of Francis, 1st. marquis of Hertford, and had an only daughter lady Gertrude Fitz-Gerald Villiers, who became his sole heir, and married in 1802, lord Henry Stuart, son of John, 1st marquis of Bute. She died in 1809, and was succeeded by her son John Fitz-Gerald Stuart, the present and 16th lord of Decies.

III. Hic jacent corpora Geraldî Grace de Ballylinch, &c. armiger, qui obiit v. die Martii anno domini M,DC,XIV, § et Margarette Hartpole uxoris ejus, quæ obiit xi. die Februarii, anno domini M,DC,XIX.

Stemmata præclaro; præclarus et ipse, Geralde,

Matre Geraldina, belligeroque patre;

Siccine morte jaces, homini dilecte Deoque!

Heu! flos virtutum siccine magne jaces!

Corpus habet tellus, animus super astra volavit.

Sponsum et ad astra suum sponsa secuta tua est.

Alter in alterius gremio requiescit uterque;

Ante thronum æterni fulget uterque Dei.

“ *Stemmata præclaro, præclarus, &c.*” The repetition and play upon words which prevails through these lines; are by no means inelegant, though disapproved of by most of those who have written on the subject of epigram and epitaph. “ *Lusus in verbis, et frivola, ut vocant, argutiæ, quales sunt paronomasiæ, aliæque id genus allusiones, nisi contra artem sub stylum succedant, non tam figuræ, quam vitia sunt.*” Dryden, however, in the dedication of his Juvenal, is of a different opinion, when he praises the celebrated lines of Catullus.

“ *Ut flos in septis secretis nascitur hortis,*

Ignotus pecori, &c.”

In the metamorphoses and epistles of Ovid, we find much of this playful turn. The following, from the story of Deucalion and Pyrrha, is certainly very striking :

If baron John Grace Fitz-John of Courtstown, Proprietors acquired the reputation of piety, by founding Grace's

1777, leaving issue Richard Grace, one of the most accomplished and Gracefield faultless characters of his age, whether in reference to talents, know-branch. ledge, or conduct.* Richard Grace of Southville was M.P. for the borough of Baltimore, and on him the English baronetage of sir Richard

“ Namque ego (crede mihi) si te quoque pontus haberet,
Te sequerer conjux ; et me quoque pontus haberet.”

This figure is called “ Epistrophe,” but when succeeding verses begin alike, it is called “ Anaphora,” the union of both is called “ Symploce,” an example of which also occurs in the same story.

“ Et superesse videt de tot modo millibus unum,
Et superesse videt de tot modo millibus unam,
Innocuos ambos, cultores numinis ambos.”

Among the many curious instances that survive in our country of this species of ingenuity, may be noticed the following distich, which tradition has preserved on Fitz-Gerald, earl of Kildare.

“ Who killed Kildare? who dared Kildare to kill?
Death killed Kildare, who dares kill who he will.”—

The epitaph on the fair Rosamond de Clifford is well known ;

“ Hic jacet in tumba Rosa mundi non Rosamunda
Non redolet sed olet, quæ redolere solet.”

By a very curious coincidence of very different things, either Pope or Swift “ longo post tempore” produced for sir John Vanburgh, the architect of Blenheim, who reared that noble but cumbrous edifice near Rosamond’s bower, the following epitaph.

“ Lie heavy on him earth ! for he
Laid many a heavy load on thee.”

“ Geraldine.” His name was introduced into the Ballylinch branch of the Grace family, by the marriage of sir Oliver Grace with Mary Fitz-Gerald of Decies, as alluded to in the next line, “ *Matre Geraldinâ.*” Geraldine was an appellation common to all descendants of the two great houses of Kildare and Desmond—Geraldines quasi Fitz-Geralds. *Siccinè morte jaces,*” the repetition of these words at the end of the following pentameter, are remarkably pathetic, and of this figure, also called “ Epanalepsis,” we have many examples in

* For this note see p. 550.

Proprietors chapel at Tullaroan, 34th Hen. VIII. (1543,) so did he merit that of a splendid and martial spirit by

Gracefield branch. Gamon as abovementioned, was entailed. He died 9th of Jan. 1801, aged 40, leaving issue (by Jane, daughter of the hon. John Evans, son of George, 1st lord Carbery) three sons, viz. 1st. sir William Grace, bart. who succeeded to the title on the death of sir Richard Gamon,

Ovid, particularly in his *Epistolæ Heroidum*, where they add much to the tenderness of the subject. Martial, Lib. VIII. Ep. 21, begins thus,

“ Phosphore, redde diem ; quid gaudia nostra moraris ?
Cæsare venturo, Phosphore redde diem.”

His 99th epigram of the IXth book consists of 12 verses, the hexameters of which begin with “ *rumpitur invidia*,” and the pentameters end with the same words. A similar instance occurs once or twice, I think, in Catullus. “ *Flos virtutum*, &c.” This may be thought a strong, and perhaps even an objectionable expression, though in Ennius we find “ *Flos illibatus populi*.” *Corpus habet tellus*, &c.” To this purpose are the following heathenish verses :—

“ Bis duo sunt homini ; manes, caro, spiritus, umbra ;
Bis duo suscipiunt quatuor ista loca ;
Terra tegit carnem, tumultum circumvolat umbra,
Orcus habet manes, spiritus astra petit.”

“ *Alter in alterius*, &c.” that is so far as respects their mortal remains, for “ *terra tegit carnem*.” “ *Ante thronum*, &c.” with respect to their pure and immortal souls, for “ *spiritus astra petit*.”

In the Survey of the Grace Mausoleum at Arles, the reader will find other epitaphs on members of this branch, now denominated of Gracefield, in the Queen's county.

§ See p. 556. This gentleman's will was proved on the 16th of March, 1814, though his death took place upon the 8th of May in the same year. This appears at first to be a statement of dates utterly inconsistent with fact, though nothing admits of an easier explanation. It will be recollected, that at the period these dates are thus stated, the old style prevailed, as we had not then adopted the correction introduced into the *Gregorian* calendar, by the pope of that name. As good protestants, however, we persevered in reckoning our time by the *Julian* calendar. The great man, by whom the antiquated and most faulty calen-

greatly enlarging and strengthening the castle of Proprietors Courtstown (al. Tullaroan,) characterized by tra-

bart. 8th of April, 1818. 2d. Sheffield. 3d. Percy. We now return to Oliver Gracefield Grace of Gracefield, who died 24th of August. 1781, leaving issue, (by branch. Mary, daughter and eventual heir to John Dowell of Mantua, county of Roscommon) two sons, viz. 1st. Michael Grace of Gracefield, of

dar of Numa, rendered still worse by numerous abuses for political purposes, by intercalations of the most capricious nature and extent, and by violent disruptions of the appointed seasons, as designed to regulate the machinery of the various official elections in Rome, had imposed his name upon the new system thus introduced. But notwithstanding the aid derived from Sosigenes, an accomplished astronomer, about forty-three or four years before our era, an error crept in of a nature which aggravated itself by the mere lapse of time. Our own era is itself known to be wrong by four years, as Dionysius Exiguus, a Neapolitan churchman, had, when introducing it, made the mistake, very venially it may be allowed, in that dark period of modern European history. This, however, was of little consequence; but the error of so many days in the Julian year, was not only a serious evil in itself, but from its very nature, was every consecutive year becoming worse. Pope Gregory XIII. in October 1582, introduced the present mode of regulation, but which we did not adopt, as has been before observed, until September 1752, when lord Chesterfield brought into parliament a bill for the adoption of the Gregorian reformation. The science of lord Macclesfield, an accurate astronomer, digested the scheme, and to the eloquence of lord Chesterfield it was indebted for its popularity, and, perhaps in some degree at least, for its adoption. Of this revolution in the ordination of the months, he gives a very entertaining account in a letter to his son. After observing, that lord Macclesfield lost all the credit due to him for his astronomical learning, on account of his slovenly style of expression, he adds that when he was himself complimented for his distinct exposition of a subject so complex, he with great truth answered, that he knew no more about the matter, than about the Slavonic language. In fact he had contented himself with a popular and amusing detail of the historic matters, relative to the various modes by which time is computed, whether separately considered, or as they are combined into the cycles, which astronomy so delights to construct, in order to systematize and render harmonious with themselves, the laws of revolution,

Proprietors dition as being then the noblest residence in this part of the country, and exceeded only by the earl

Gracefield whom presently, and 2d. John Grace of Mantua, who died in 1811, leaving issue (by Mary, daughter and co-heir to Patrick Hussey of Ardimore, county of Kerry) an only son Oliver Dowell Grace, now of Mantua, married to Frances, daughter of sir Richard Nagle, bart.

which it has become its business, whether assumed in the first instance from an abstract love of science, or subsequently from the power afforded by it of practical application, to see reduced to the greatest possible precision. After the above observations it is hardly necessary to state, that the old style or Julian year commenced on the 25th of March, and that the new style or Gregorian year commenced on the 1st of January. According to the former, the seventh month was consequently September, the eighth October, and so on. By the alteration, however, these and the two following months have been made to partake somewhat of the nature of solecism: for by their present position, their names are no longer descriptive of their consecutive order. The courtly designations of the two first Cæsars, Julius and Augustus, had long before displaced the numerical terms of Quintilis and Sextilis. From what has been said, the reader will perceive that Gerald Grace died in the second month of the Julian year, and that after a lapse of more than ten months, his will was proved within nine days of the expiration of the twelfth and last month of the same year. In the older editions of the *Tatlers* and *Spectators*, as well as in the newspapers, &c. contemporary with those works, we often see the three months thus intervening between the 1st of January and the 25th of March thus expressed $17\frac{1}{2}$. In the present instance, the difference arising from the two modes of computation amounts to no less than ten months and eleven days—a very serious mistake in a family's concerns, respecting both lineage and property, if it did not admit of so ready a solution.

* See p.557. The following lines, occasioned by the subject of the foregoing pages, are inscribed to the memory of Richard Grace, esq. M. P.

Down thundering, tumbles with incessant roar,
A world of waters bellowing to the shore,
That many a mile around receives the shock,
On trembling margin or on echoing rock.

of Ormond's castle at Kilkenny. Yet imposing as these castellated residences were in their structure, Proprietors

of Jamestown, county of Westmeath. Michael Grace of Gracefield died 25th of August, 1785, leaving issue (by Mary, daughter and co-heir to Nicholas Plunket of Dunsoghly castle, county of Dublin) an only daughter Alicia Grace, now of Gracefield, and of Dunsoghly Gracefield branch.

'Till spread in wide effusion, gently flowing,
 Or with Canadian suns, so brightly glowing,*
 Onward Saint Lawrence moves his mighty stream
 Rich in translucent wave, and summer gleam——
 So; in far times, on green Ierne's lands,
 Rushed to precipitate his mailed bands,
 On Cambria's shore collected, strong to gain
 O'er many a bloody heap, or wasted plain,
 A diadem's proud wreath, atchiev'd in arms,
 By glorious strife, and graced with beauty's charms—
 Girt with his peers, on blood cemented throne,
 Warrior and prince triumphant Strongbow shone;
 Scepter and sword, together wielded, blazed,
 Where trembled foes, and proud companions gazed—
 Purple and throne, in dim eclipse were shrouded,
 While shone more proudly splendid and unclouded,†

* When general Simcoe returned from the government of Canada, which he had ruled with so much advantage to the country and honour to himself, he had unfortunately to complain of broken health, not in consequence of the intense cold, but of the still more intense heat: a horrid climate, exhibiting in horrid force the powers of the seasons.

† It will be recollected, that though Strongbow was the head, Raymond was the very soul of the enterprize. Upon his secession in anger, when Strongbow deferred consenting to his marriage with Basilia, the war either stood still, or what was worse, went back. The repentance of Strongbow was immediate, and his concession complete.

Proprietors and rich in recollections, we may congratulate ourselves that we have been reserved for times in which

Gracefield branch. castle, married on the 5th of June, 1792 to Morgan, 3d son of Thomas Kavanagh of Borris, in the county of Carlow, who died 25th of November, 1804—Vid. vol. xviii, page 26, of MS. pedigrees in office of Ulster king at arms.

Where Raymond, e'en as Rome's proud race he shamed,
 At once the sword and buckler's glory claimed,*
 When as in mystic phrase, with caution bold,
 The tale of sorrow sad Basilia told†—
 But happier days, in tranquil lapse, succeed
 Nor warriors now, in green Ierne, bleed—
 Peace, with her busy sons, triumphant reigns,
 O'er golden harvests, and o'er cultured plains—
 Among those sons, to mingle virtue sent,
 With learned lore, and high accomplishment,
 Shone HE, from Clare's and Windsor's lineage sprung‡
 And forth to time by muse historic sung.
 Yes—this to thee, O parent, loved, admired
 By every virtue in your bosom fired,
 Memorial slight inscribed, just serves to tell,
 That thou art gone, who, living, lived so well.

* Fabius and Marcellus, the opponents of Hannibal. These great men had each singly the merit, the first of being the shield, the second the sword of Rome. To the Anglo-Norman expedition, Raymond le Gros was both the one and the other.

† When Basilia wrote to inform her husband Raymond le Gros, that her brother earl Strongbow was dead, she, fearing lest the letter might be intercepted, used this expression, “the great tooth which had been so long ailing, has at length fallen out.” Raymond succeeded Strongbow as governor of Ireland.

‡ The surname of Basilia was of course that of Clare, as the daughter of Gilbert de Clare earl of Pembroke. The patronymic of Raymond le Gros was de Windsor, as that of Richard Strong-bow was de Clare. Raymond was the grandson of Gerald Fitz-Walter de Windsor, surnamed de Carew.

we may survey them in their ruins. No band of *Proprietors* spoliators now sally from their posterns, and their dungeons have long since been untenanted. Nor are the victims of such a power the only persons to be pitied; for their oppressors themselves must have lived in that state of feverish anxiety, which must have gone far to destroy the charities, and consequently blunt the very best enjoyments of our nature. But human life has ever exhibited a balanced system; and though excursions of violence, and orders for oppression, but too often issued from these strong-holds of power, yet the destitute wanderer or benighted wayfarer never roused the warder from his slumber but the portal was opened for his reception. The hospitality likewise, even lavish and certainly habitual, then practised may easily make us believe the prevailing tradition that queen Elizabeth's lord lieutenant of Ireland,* and a numerous retinue were magnificently entertained for several weeks together at this castle. About the same period, the sons of various Irish chiefs, it is said, were confined here as hostages, who could not be prevailed upon to entrust themselves to the custody of the lord deputy in Dublin. But the baron of Courtstown possessed an hereditary claim to their confidence, as well as an acknowledged personal one to that of the English government. The great

* Probably sir Henry Sidney, the *good lord deputy*, which lord Strafford says was the name he was known by among the native Irish. He appears to have often had communication with the family, and in different despatches both to the queen and secretary Cecil, he mentions the services and losses of sir Oliver Grace, and that his lands in the county of Tipperary were "spoiled," (plundered or laid waste) by the earl of Desmond, then in rebellion against the state. Sydney's state letters, edited by Collins, page 13.

Proprietors power and intrepid exploits of “an Grassagh more Ballynacourty” (the great Grace of Courtstown), the common appellation by which he was known, are to this day spoken of in the parish; and the establishment he is said to have made of an English colony for the purpose of more widely diffusing their language, industry, and civilization, among his followers and dependants, receives some confirmation, not only from the many English names that still remain among the peasantry, but from the townland of “Brittas more an Grassagh” (great Brittas-Grace) having a “New England” for one of its sub-denominations. To meet with this name in a parish in Ireland, might otherwise excite some surprise; but the very same reason which carried the term to the northern states of America, may well be supposed, and allowed to have operated in the emigration hither. This kind of policy is familiar to every reader of Greek history; and in our own time, the transplantation together of numerous German families into different parts of Russia by the imperial Autocrat, and of Scottish peasantry into Canada by the earl of Selkirk, prove just the same thing. That queen Elizabeth saw the necessity of doing this in a country so recently reduced, will excite no wonder in those who are acquainted with the cautious enquiry which in her councils preceded her measures, and the firm decisions which from these councils were inexorably adopted. But while the policy of such a measure was that of the sovereign, it is obvious, that it could only have been rendered available by the co-operation of the resident lords of the soil. Of these, if we may believe tradition, none were more beneficently active than the family of

Grace; and the substantial instances of royal favour ~~Proprietors~~ then bestowed will be accepted as no ordinary evidence of the fact.

The castle of Tubrid, on the townland of that name, forming the northern boundary of this parish, is said to have been erected by this baron of Courtstown, to protect his adjoining estates from the hostile inroads of "Moryhead Glearhodh" (Margaret Fitz-Gerald, the great countess of Ormonde.)* There are many stories yet current of her sanguinary contests with the Graces, of her open attempts to seize their property, and of her wily stratagems to entrap their persons. The historic bard

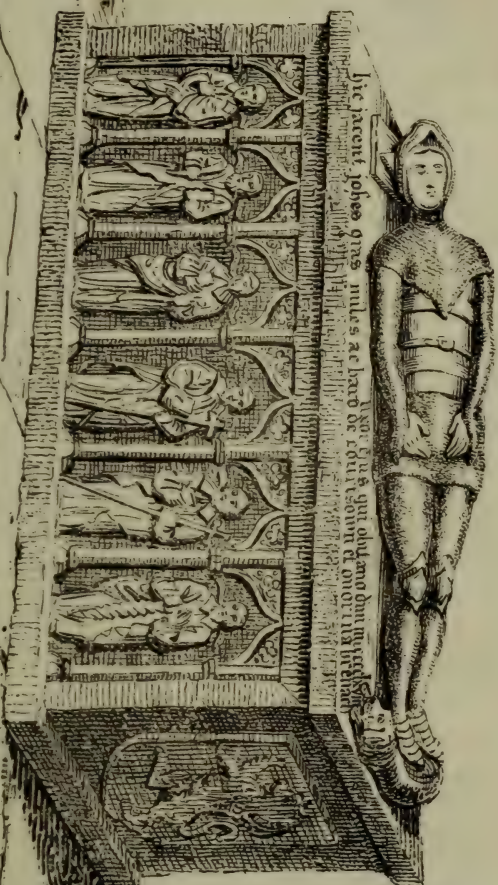
* She was the 2d daughter of Gerald 8th earl of Kildare, the wife of Pierce 8th earl of Ormond, lord deputy of Ireland, and the mother of James, 9th earl of Ormond, and of Richard, 1st lord viscount Mountgarret. Her character is thus drawn by Stanyhurst. "The earl," says he, "was of himself a plain simple gentleman (saving in feats of arms) and yet nevertheless he bare out his honour and charge of his government very worthily, through the singular wisdom of his countess; a lady of such port, that all estates of the realm crouched unto her; so politick, that nothing was thought substantially debated without her advice; she was man-like, and of tall stature, very liberal and bountiful; a sure friend; a bitter enemy; hardly disliking where she fancied; not easily fancying where she disliked." She is said to have seized on several considerable estates, and to have compelled their proprietors by severe imprisonment and torture, to execute surrenders of them. The tradition adds, that on one occasion while suffering exquisite pain from an illness that threatened her life, she replied to the exhortations of her ghostly attendant to make restitution of her unjust acquisitions, as the only means of ensuring admission to Heaven, "that it was far better for one woman to enter Hell, than for the whole race of the Butlers to lose for ever their wealth and power". Among the castles of her erection was that of Mount-Garret, denominated from her own family-name Gerald, which was, at that period, pronounced and written Garret. This castle, in 1550, gave the title of viscount to her second son Richard.

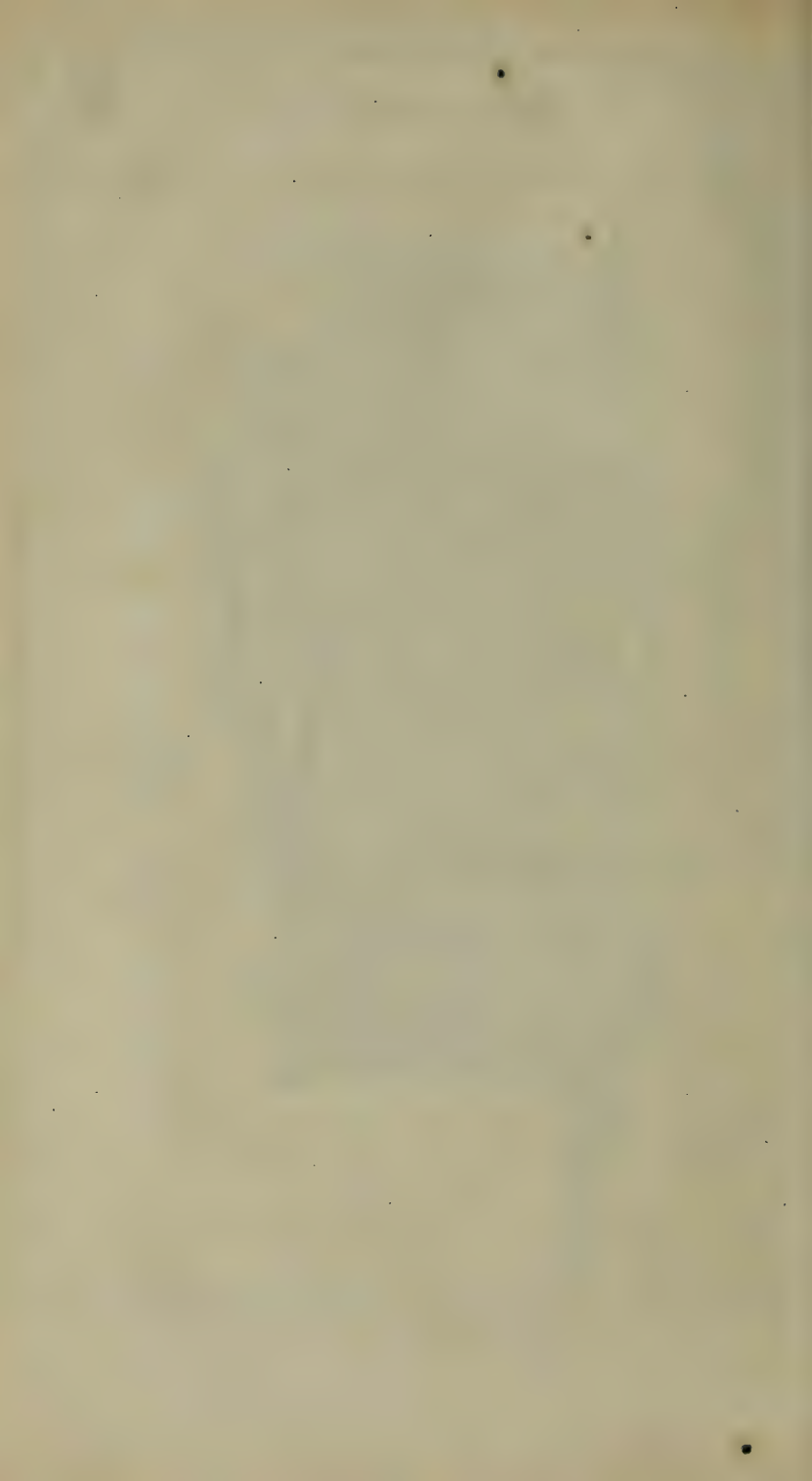
Proprietors of feudal frays also commemorates the frequent failure of her efforts, and extols her for abandoning all ambitious designs before her death, and confirming her proffered reconciliation by two marriages between the Graces and her own family. One of the marriages referred to was doubtless that of sir Oliver Grace of Ballylinch castle with her grand daughter Mary, daughter of sir Gerald Fitz-Gerald, lord of Decies. Of the other marriage we can discover nothing. Tradition characterizes the former alliance as "the happy reunion of ancient blood and friendship". Evident allusion is here made not only to the termination of a savage feud, but to the junction of two kindred branches of the same family after a separation of four centuries and a half, deducing it from William and Maurice Fitz-Gerald, the two sons of Gerald Fitz-Walter de Windsor; sir Oliver Grace being descended from the elder of these, and Mary Fitz-Gerald from the younger.

It may be interesting, as illustrative of the times, to notice a decree* given 10th January, 3d of Edw. VI. (1549,) obliging Richard Archdeken to pay to sir John Grace, baron of Courtstown, at the feast of the Apostles Philip and James, 13 milk kyne, with their calfs, 127 marks in money, 7 of calf kyne, 157 sheep, 18 garrons, 11 kyne, 67 pecks of oats, 3 horses, and a harpe, out of the manor and town of Castleton in Galmoye, and certain lands and tenements in Eirke.† Sir John Grace was returned to

* Decree rolls temp. Edw. VI.

† This payment might have been for rent in arrear, and the mention of the render of the harp, certainly seems to countenance the owing of some suit or service to a superior. A bard or harper was in course a necessary attendant in the hall of every lord of land; and although the "lay of the last minstrel" has been recorded by the muse of Walter Scott, this sad songster was only the last of many.





parliament for the county of Kilkenny, January 17th Proprietors
10th of Eliz. (1568), and during the same year was
interred among his ancestors in the cathedral church
of St. Canice in Kilkenny. The monument, (of
which a drawing is here given) that was erected for
him between the 1st and 2d pillars at the eastern
extremity of the south side of the nave, is still stand-
ing, though it did not wholly escape the barbarous
fanatics of Cromwell's army, who converted the ca-
thedral into a stable.* His recumbent figure of full
size, clad in a complete suit of mail armour, with a
belt round his waist, a sword by his side, and
a dog at his feet, is very well executed in black
marble. Six apostles in bold alto relievo, labelled with
scrolls, stand in niches, richly fretted, on the north,
and a like number on the south side of the tomb.
On the western side or head, the crucifixion, and two
attendant female figures are represented; and on the
eastern side or foot, a shield, bearing a lion ram-
pant.† The inscription in raised gothic characters
on the top, along the southern side of the figure is,
hic.jacent.johannes.gras.miles.ac.baro.de.courstown.et.onorina-
brenach.uror.ejus.anno.domini.mcccc.lxviii.die.men.....‡

* Fanaticism is not a good motive for such an outrage, but bad as it
is, it is better than mere wantonness. Thus in the mess-room of the
guards in the tower of London, a multitude of inscriptions, cruci-
fixes, &c. &c. remained, attesting the incarceration there of priests,
suspected persons, traitors, &c. Among the names, that of lady Jane
Gray was preserved. It is with no common indignation to be told,
that of these interesting reliquæ, many were defaced, and more in-
jured by a young officer who could find no better mode of dissipating
his ennui in a rainy day, than by chipping these testimonials to pieces
with the point of his sword.

† The arms of this family are gules, a lion rampant per fess argent
and or. The crest, a lion rampant as in the shield. The last baron
of Courtstown quartered on his seal six coats, and had for his dexter
supporter a lion, and for his sinister a hound or talbot.

‡ Ledwich's antiquities of Ireland, page 404.

Proprietors By his wife Onoria Walsh, (of which *Brenach* is the Irish) daughter of Walter Walsh of Castle Hoel, and lord of Walsh's country, he had baron Oliver Grace,* his successor in the lordship of Tullaroan, who was appointed governor of the barony of Cranagh, in Grace's country, 30th Sept. 18th Eliz. (1575).† He married‡ Ellis, daughter and heir to Henry Davells of Killisheen, in the Queen's county, by whom he had issue§ sir John Grace, baron of Courtstown the next proprietor of Tullaroan.

This sir John Grace, on the 2d of December, 32d of Eliz. (1590), enfeoffed sir Richard Shee of Kilkenny, knight, in the manor of Tullaghrohan and other lands. He died 27th of March, 44th of Eliz. (1602), leaving issue by Lettice, daughter of sir Richard Shee abovementioned, Robert Grace, who was found by an inquisition|| then taken, to be 22

* MS. pedigree in Ulster's office.

† Sir Henry Sydney's letters of state. Vol. 1. page 134.

‡ MS. pedigrees in Ulster's office. § *ib.*

|| The feudal tenures were, at all times a great, but oppressive, branch of the royal revenues of our former kings, until they were all happily abolished after the restoration of Charles II. (Stat. 12 Car. II. C. 24). To ascertain and enforce these rights, several proceedings and legal forms were gradually instituted and established, which having ceased with the great cause whence they originated, are now only known by antiquaries and others who make the ancient laws and state of these countries a subject of study. The muniments thus formed, which constitute a considerable portion of the early legal records of these kingdoms, may be classed under the following heads; 1st. *Inquisitions post mortem* or *escheats*. 2d. *Liberty of seisin*. 3d. *Licences and pardons of alienation*.

1st. *Inquisitions post mortem* or *escheats*. These feudal records which are "the best evidences of the descents of families and property," were the results of enquiries held by the escheators in every

years of age, and married to Eleanor Condon, the ^{Proprietors} daughter of David Condon, lord of Condon's country,

county or district of the kingdom by virtue of their offices, but more generally under writs to them directed for the purpose, upon the death of any of the king's tenants *in capite*, being those who held their lands immediately from the crown, *in right* of some hereditary office, service, chiefry, or pecuniary acknowledgment. This was done by a jury consisting of twelve or more, who generally found the quantity, quality, and value of the lands each tenant died seized of, by what rents or services the same were held, who was the next heir and of what age, that the king might be informed of his right of escheat, relief, wardship, marriage, or other advantages to which he might be entitled. This mode of proceeding became in process of time an intolerable grievance, and individuals were frequently compelled, under colour of false inquisitions, to sue out livery of seizen from the crown, although not tenants thereof, and in consequence of these abuses, a court of wards and liveries was erected in England by statute 32d Henry VIII. chap. 46, which was afterwards extended to Ireland. Amongst many other plans proposed during the reign of James I. for the amelioration of Ireland, the establishment of a court of wards, similar to that in England, was projected by sir William Parsons, and was accordingly adopted, though not sanctioned or regulated by any known law or ordinance as that in England had been. The projector was appointed "master" of this court, and soon had sufficient opportunity to indulge in his well-known enmity towards the Irish gentry. The measures of this arbitrary tribunal were of the most illegal and oppressive nature. When the royal graces were conferred by Charles in 1628, some attempts were made to correct these abuses, and the court was in some measure reformed, and the extraordinary powers which it had assumed, were regulated and controlled. By these, it was, amongst other things prohibited that any enquiries should be made beyond the person last in possession, unless under a special commission. The escheators were to have associated with them the most respectable inhabitants of each county on holding inquisitions; wardships and custodies of minor's estates were to be reasonably valued, and no relief was to be paid for lands not exceeding 5*l.* yearly rent. All these however, with other regulations then directed to be made, were soon disregarded, and the court of wards during the government of lord Strafford, assumed a power before unknown and unheard of. The following description of its proceedings will best explain their nature. "The illegal, arbitrary, and unlawful proceedings of the

Proprietors by Eleanor, daughter of Richard lord Peer of Curraghmore. He was returned to parliament for the

said sir W. Parsons, and one of the said impeached judges, and their adherents and instruments, in the court of wards, and the many willfully erroneous decrees and judgments of that court, by which the heirs of Catholique noblemen and other Catholiques, were most cruelly and tyrannically dealt withall, destroyed in their estates, and bred in dissolution and ignorance, their parents debts unsatisfied, their sisters and younger brothers wholly unprovided for, the ancient and appearing tenures of mesne lords unregarded, estates valid in law, and made for valuable considerations, avoyded against law; and the whole land filled up with the frequent swarms of escheators, feodaryes, pursuivants and others, by authoritie of that court." (Remonstrance from Trym 1642.) Though this remonstrance was confined to the grievance inflicted on one body, viz. the Irish Catholics, yet we are not to conclude that the Protestant subjects were free from these visitations. In this particular they were equally oppressed with their otherwise more injured and persecuted fellow sufferers. During the civil commotions, however, which immediately after took place, we hear very little more of this arbitrary court, few inquisitions were taken in the kingdom, the form was discontinued during the protectorate, and was entirely abolished, as already mentioned, at the restoration.

2d. *Livery of Seisin*. One of the abuses attending the improper use of inquisitions post mortem, and which caused the establishment of the court of Wards in England, was the compulsion on persons to sue out livery of seisin, though not immediately holding from the crown. By the feudal law every minor, male and female, heir of the king's tenant *in capite* (the former when arrived at the age of 21, and the latter when at that of 16) might sue out livery of seisin, or as it was termed in the old law. *ouster-lemain* i. e. delivery of their lands out of the hands of their guardian, to whom the wardship was generally farmed out or disposed of, by the way of grant as a profitable mark of royal favor.

3d. *Licences and pardons of Alienations*. By the same law, no tenant or feudatory could alien or transfer his land without the consent, or licence of the lord, for obtaining which, fines were usually paid. In England, and in that part of Ireland to which the English laws extended, these fines were commonly paid by the king's tenants *in capite* only, on payment of which, into the banaper, the king's letters patent or licence of alienation, were passed under the great seal, to authorise the transfer and render it legal. Whenever it happened that the tenant presumed to alien without licence, it became necessary for him to ob-

county of Kilkenny on the 16th of April, 11th of Proprietors James 1st. (1613)* and he was again chosen on the 19th of June, 9th of Charles 1st. (1634)† to represent the same county in the parliament assembled by lord Strafford, who boasted that this was the first national parliament which had ever been held, as no other had ever before represented the whole kingdom, but merely the fluctuating territory of the English pale. On this occasion Ireland appeared, for the first time, to be emphatically under the dominion of England. In these two parliaments, so important in the history of the country, it must ever be matter of interest to recollect the names and characters of the persons, who were by their debates and enactments to produce consequences, so important. Up to that time there had been either no public feeling, or it had most certainly been exhibited by no reflex in the commons house of parliament. The value indeed of a house of representatives is chiefly that of giving this reflex of popular feeling, though that feeling may, and perhaps occasionally must be somewhat distorted. It was then

tain a *pardon of alienation*, on payment of a fine greater than the former, but generally proportioned to the value of the property alienated. Such were the principal sources of this branch of the royal revenues of these countries, the natural growth of the barbarous period of our early history. In Ireland they obtained for many centuries, only within the pale, until the time of James I. and that of his successor. During these reigns they produced no inconsiderable income to the crown, but were at the same time a fruitful source of fraud and oppression. At the restoration other branches of revenue supplied their place, but how far the evils which led to the abolition of the old forms have been removed, may become the subject of some future investigation.

* Journals of the house of commons, anno 11 James I.

† Ib.

Proprietors that the spirit of liberty began to be stirring, and the attempts to stifle it first by king James' lavish creation of boroughs, and subsequently by lord Strafford's arbitrary use of the means thus put into his hands, just served to render the explosion so much the more dreadful. In that, it is not necessary to say that this great statesman most unworthily, as well as most unjustly was made to perish, though one of the best friends, which Ireland could ever boast; for there are stages of society, in which the legislator, to be serviceable, must be, for a time at least, invested with the very largest powers.

By an inquisition taken 4th of June, 21st of James I. (1623), it was found that Robert Grace of Courtstown had enfeoffed on the 30th of June, 15th James I. (1617) sir Roger Jones of Doranstown in the county of Meath, in the manor of Tullaghrohan and other lands in this county, to certain uses, and that he paid a fine of £80 Irish for the licence of alienation. On the 19th of March, 12th Charles I. (1637), a grant was made (by virtue of "the *commission of grace* for remedy of defective titles," dated 7th Sept. 1636,*

* Already for a period of upwards of 400 years, from the invasion of Ireland by Henry II. to the close of the reign of Elizabeth, did this unhappy land exhibit the most tragic scenes of infatuated misrule, and unparalleled oppression on one side, and of consequent insubordination, and sanguinary resistance, on the other. "Ubi solitudinem faciunt, pacem appellant" says Galgacus in the life of Agricola by Tacitus. Such also was the impolitic and inhuman maxim that "the only way to civilize the Irish was to exterminate them, and seize their estates," a maxim, which, originating in the false and insidious Cambrensis, seems to have been the actuating principle which guided their insatiable rulers during the whole of this melancholy period of devastation and horror. Elizabeth's successor must undoubtedly be considered the first English monarch who possessed the entire dominion

and for the fine of £24 10s.) to Robert Grace of Proprietors
Courtstown castle, of the manor, towns and lands

of Ireland, and sir John Davis has distinctly shewn that on the accession of James I. to the throne of these realms, the dawn of national happiness had, after so many centuries, only then begun to appear. The disheartened natives, subdued by repeatedly defeated rebellions, were prepared to yield to a new order of things, and to milder measures; the necessity of which was suggested, and proved, by the melancholy experience of past events. As a preliminary step towards pacifying the kingdom, an act of general indemnity and oblivion of all past offences was issued forth, and was hailed with joy by a people heretofore unaccustomed to any such marks of royal regard and attention. This wise, and salutary measure, was soon followed by others, equally politic and just. On the 20th of March 1606, his majesty, by commission under the great seal of England, called, by way of distinction the COMMISSION OF GRACE appointed the lord deputy, and all the great officers of state in Ireland, commissioners "to survey the Irish countries and territories, and to examine what estate or right the Irish lord's tenants, or inhabitants had therein, and by what rents and services, and of what lands they were holden; to divide and distinguish with certainty their and every of their several lands and possessions, and to establish and confirm them therein according to their several rights and interests, to accept surrenders and to re-grant same, to divide the said countries into several manors or signiories, and into several precincts or leets; to assign demesne lands therein, and to allot other portions thereof to a competent number of freeholders, and to grant such royalties and franchises as they should think fit; to set down and limit, in certainty, the mears, bounds, circuits, and precincts of such parishes as were not certainly bounded and distinguished; and to enquire what glebe lands, tythes and other duties theretofore, of right, belonged to several churches, parsonages, vicarages, and chapels of the said several parishes, and to take order that the incumbents might enjoy the same; to take such good and speedy course, as they should think fit for the re-edifying and repairing of the several churches and chapels then ruined and defaced, and for the supplying and furnishing the same with fit and sufficient incumbents; to set forth in certainty the true bounds and limits of all such shires and counties as were not already certainly bounded and limited; and to separate and distinguish such shires as should be thought of too large an extent, into several shires; and to make baronies or hundreds in every of them, and to divide and distinguish the same into several

Proprietors of Tullaghrohan, alias Tullaroan, together with divers other townlands to the number of thirty-

tythings, and thereupon to make good and speedy order for the building and erecting of the several towns and villages; for repairing and re-peopling of such towns corporate and others, which were in any sort decayed, and for the setting up of good trades therein; and for erecting schools of learning for instruction of youth in religion and good letters; inns for the ease and entertainment of travellers; and to settle the composition in lieu of cess."—(Inrolled 5th James I. 1st part d. 4.)

The beneficial effects of this memorable commission were instantaneous, and almost all the landholders of the kingdom renewed and confirmed their tenures by new grants from the crown. The zeal of the king to ameliorate the condition of his Irish subjects daily increased. This he manifested in many instances, but particularly by a further commission, directed to the lord deputy and others, *for the remedy of all defective titles*, dated at Westminster the 26th of June, 1610. The tenor of this second commission affords additional proof of the anxiety of James to promote the peace and prosperity of Ireland. "Whereas," says that monarch "the wars and troubles of our realm of Ireland being lately brought to an end, and the public peace of that kingdom being, in some good measure, established, we conceive that it will much avail for the preservation and continuance of the said public and general peace, that all and every of our subjects in particular, may quietly and securely enjoy his and their private estates and possessions. And whereas we are informed that divers of our loving subjects of that realm having quietly enjoyed divers manors, lands, tenements and hereditaments as well by descent from their ancestors, as by purchase upon good and just considerations, both by conveyance from some other of our subjects, and also by grant from us or some of our progenitors, are daily vexed, sued and put to intolerable charges, by color of divers offices or inquisitions, whereby their said estates are found to be concealed or unjustly detained from us, or upon *pretence* that the titles of our said subjects are in some strict point of law, defective, imperfect, voidable or defeazable. We, therefore, of our princely disposition, being very desirous, not only to free our said loving subjects from such *vexations and suits* as have been already attempted, but also to prevent and take away the cause of the like molestations and charge hereafter, and to the intent that such of our loving subjects as desire to settle and establish their estates for themselves and their posterity, and to be discharged of the meane profits, may, upon

nine in this immediate neighbourhood, all of which Proprietors are specifically described. The existing family set-

such composition as shall be agreeable with equity and good conscience, obtain letters patent, to be made unto them, in such sort as their several cases shall require; We commission you, any seven or more of you (the lord deputy to be one) to bargain, sell, and conclude in our name for ready money paid in hand, or sufficient security for the same, to or with any persons, of or for any of his majesty's manors lands, &c." (Enrolled 8th James I. fifth part d. R. 2.)

This salutary measure was afterwards renewed (13th James I. 1st. part. f. r. 2.) and in the mean time the settlement in Ulster was completely effected. But notwithstanding these attempts to benefit the country were apparently well intended, and in general carried on with every semblance of equity and attention to former rights, yet the temptation to needy and rapacious adventurers was great, and under the pretence of detecting concealed lands, multitudes of the native Irish were deprived of great parts of their ancient inheritances, which, with unpardonable connivance of the state, were granted to the unprincipled informers. These flagrant acts of injustice sunk deeply into the minds of the irritated natives, and their baneful effects sprung forth after a lapse of many years. During the remainder of the reign of king James, several other measures were taken professedly, to perfect the great work of pacification which had been commenced, but their beneficial effects were greatly diminished by a repetition of the abuses just alluded to. In the parliament of 1613, the degrading distinctions between the English settlers and Irish natives were totally abolished; leases were made of all the crown lands which were impartially granted to both. The plantation of Longford and the territory of Ely O'Carroll in the King's county between the undertakers and natives, was effected. (Rot. pat. 17 James I. 1 p. f. r. 49.) A commission soon after issued to commissioners to enquire what manors, towns, lands, and other hereditaments, as well spiritual as temporal, were situate within the territories or circuits of land called the Byrne's country, by the names of Byrnes and Cosha, and in the territory of Clancapp, county of Wicklow, who were or pretended to be the owners, possessors, or proprietors thereof? of what quantity they were respectively seized or possessed? and by what title they held the same? what rents, services, and customs, chiefries or duties any person claimed or received thereout? and to accept deeds of surrender thereof. [17th James I. 3. p. d. f. s.) This district was found by inquis-

Proprietors' elements are also fully recognized, and the several entails extending through four generations, are

sition to be the property of the crown. Part was accordingly granted to colonists, and the remainder to the old possessors under certain restrictions. This was followed by another commission dated at Westminster the 29th January, 1620, reciting, that the lands in the county of Leytrim and in the territories of Ferrall, Delvin, M'Coghlan and Kilcourseie in the King's county, Iregan in the Queen's county, and a part of Clancolman in the county of Westmeath, being lawfully come to the king in right of his crown, his majesty, as well in regard of his zeal to Almighty God, which in the whole course of his government had been and was his chief care, as of his great and tender respect to his kingdom, where he desired that civility and goodness should be known and embraced by those, which, as yet, were ignorant thereof, resolved to confer such parts of said county and territories as were specified in his instructions for that plantation, upon such British undertakers, as should be conformable to the religion established in the churches of his other kingdoms, and every way dutiful and obedient to the laws. " Yet (saith his majesty) have we not for these pretences (how fair soever) any purpose to leave our other subjects the ancient inhabitants of those parts, destitute of sufficient means to support them, according to their several qualities and degrees, as may appear by the favorable regard which we have had of the better sort of them in our said instructions for that plantation, and the large quantity of the said lands which for the convenient settling of all of them in general, we have been pleased to assign unto them, and to the end that our royal intention and direction, concerning the said plantation, may be the better performed, we, reposing special trust and confidence in your care, diligence and circumspection, do appoint you our commissioners of the said intended plantation of the said county and territories, and to cause letters patent to be made thereof, according to our letters from Westminster 12th October last past, and to the said instructions annexed." (18th James I. 2d part d. R. 46.) Of these extensive territories upwards of 400,000 acres were re-granted under this commission, and although it was declared that the rights of the old inhabitants should be secured, and their tenures rendered permanent, yet during the course of the proceedings the most wicked means were openly resorted to by subornation and perjury, and other infamous practices, by which many of the unfortunate natives were stripped of their ancient estates of inheritance for no other crime than merely because they had the misfortune to be Irish.

carefully enumerated. It appears, by this deed, that Proprietors the lordship of Tullaroan was then in remainder

In this reign, when the loyal and peaceable inclinations and demeanor of the people took away all pretext for open confiscations, a new expedient was invented to invalidate the tenures of the Irish. The right of the crown to all the lands in the kingdom was traced as far back as the reign of Hen. II. In a country, circumstanced as Ireland had been from that memorable æra, legal defects in titles were easily found, neither length of possession nor hereditary right were respected, and unless the possessors sued out new grants at advanced rents, they lay at the mercy of every unprincipled informer. Of these iniquitous proceedings the entire province of Connaught affords an affecting example. The noblemen and gentry of this province had, in the late reign, surrendered their estates to the crown, but through the turbulence of the times, or from some other reason, they had in general delayed to observe the prescribed form of having their surrenders enrolled, their re-grants perfected, and their new titles completed. This omission was now represented as irremediable, and a general forfeiture and division of this extensive quarter of the kingdom was immediately anticipated by those who were only lying in wait to partake of the spoil. From so flagrant an act of injustice, however, the king at first recoiled; he accordingly, gave directions to remedy this alledged defect, and ordered other grants to be immediately made out. Although these expectants were thus disappointed in sharing the lands of this province, an unforeseen incident again revived their hopes. By fraud or design of the officers of chancery, the several new patents were never *formally* enrolled, although they exacted several thousand pounds from the patentees for the purpose. In order, as is supposed, to save the expence of *parchment* and other charges of enrollment, a *paper* book was provided into which these numerous grants were transcribed. This volume yet remains in the rolls office of chancery, with the following inscription, “*seperales concessiones factas inhabitantibus comitat’ Sligo, Mayo, Roscommon, et Galway, in provincia Conacie, virtute litterarum Domini Regis Jacobi, dat. 21 Julii.*” This informality was immediately fastened on. It was insisted that, as the law required all enrollments to be written on parchment rolls, those entries or transcripts in a paper book, could not be esteemed enrollments according to law, and that therefore the grants were void, and the lands vested in the crown. Strange and unaccountable as it

Proprietors to the heirs male of the body of the said Robert Grace's late son and " heir apparent, Oliver Grace

may appear to a modern reader, this unparalleled instance of cruelty and fraud was favourably entertained by the king, and a plantation of the entire province of Connaught, similar to that which had been recently effected in Ulster, was determined on. The unfortunate proprietors struck with dismay, threw themselves on the justice and clemency of the crown. They humbly entreated permission to take out new grants, offered to double their annual composition, and to pay into the royal coffers such fines as would amount to any benefit which could arise from the projected plantation. Thus, as Mr. William Parnell observes, with not less truth than point, James commenced with planting or confiscating for the advantage of the country, and ended with confiscating for the advantage of himself. Before however the result of these remonstrances and proposals could be known, he yielded to the stroke of mortality, leaving an agitated country to be regulated by his ill-fated successor, and how far he succeeded in this arduous task, now remains for consideration.

Some pecuniary assistance rendered to Charles after his accession, seems to have operated in favour of the Irish, and to have obtained from him those *royal graces*, which, if he had been really sincere, would have at length put an end to all the disorders of this unfortunate country, and commenced a new æra of peace and prosperity, but that happy period was not then destined to arrive. In 1628 his majesty amongst other things, renounced all claims to lands beyond 60 years, the inhabitants of Connaught were admitted to enrol their patents, and the titles of all proprietors throughout the kingdom were to be confirmed in parliament. Notwithstanding those concessions, it afterwards appeared, that the king had, from the commencement, deceived the country: a deceit which we are constrained to admit was acquiesced in by Lord Strafford, who nevertheless proved himself one of its most active benefactors, by his introduction and liberal patronage of the linen manufacture, and protection of the lower orders. No sooner however was this able but arbitrary statesman appointed to the government of Ireland, than he resolved to violate the royal graces which were so recently before conceded by the crown, although in the parliament which soon after assembled, three several acts were passed to carry into effect *commissions of grace for remedy of defective titles*, (St. 10 Ch. I. Session 1.) and for securing the estates of settlers in the plantations made by queen Elizabeth, James I. and Charles. He again

of Inchmore, (namely, to John, Raymond, Cyprian, Proprietors and Robert Grace;) remainder to the said Robert

renewed the alarming question of the king's title to all the estates in the kingdom which, it was supposed had been for ever relinquished. The unprincipled attempt made on Connaught in the late reign, was now renewed with a full resolution, after carrying into effect to remodel and civilize in a similar manner the other provinces. To give the semblance of justice to this extraordinary stretch of arbitrary power, the archives of England and Ireland were searched for evidence. and several ancient documents were found, and exemplified under the great seal, to be used on the occasion, many of which are still remaining on record in the rolls office of Dublin. Every preparation being now made, this bold and unprecedented experiment was at length attempted. The result is known to every person acquainted with the affairs of this disastrous period. Inquisitions were held, and the king's title found in the first instance to the entire province, with the exception of the extensive county of Galway. The gentlemen of this independent county were the only persons in the kingdom, who dared to withstand the torrent of despotism; they however suffered severely for their temerity, the sheriff and jury were fined, pillored, and imprisoned; and a new and effectual inquiry was instituted against that devoted district. A more detailed account of this memorable proceeding than any heretofore given to the public, will be found in Mr. Hardiman's highly interesting and instructive history of Galway, which contains many curious particulars, not hitherto generally known, relating to that part of the kingdom.

It is not our intention, in this already too lengthened note, to enter into any detail of the transactions in Ireland relating to property after this period. The proceedings under the commissions of claims during the Protectorate, and the acts of Settlement and explanation after the restoration, and the several transactions connected with them, would form in themselves, if compiled, with adequate judgment and sufficient information, as curious and interesting, and also as desirable and necessary a compendium of Irish history, as ever yet issued from the press. The several particulars relating to the forfeitures of 1688, and the various acts connected with them, which terminate the scene of legislative injustice in Ireland, would also disclose to the present, and transmit to future generations, events and feelings peculiar to this important period, which would rescue the character of the country from the aspersions of party writers, whose memories deserve to be

Proprietors for life; remainder to his other sons, John, Patrick, Richard, and Luke Grace, and their respective heirs male; remainder to the heirs male of his own body; remainder to his brothers Richard, Edmund, Oliver, Gerald, and John Grace, and their respective issue male; remainder to his uncles Pierce, Richard, Walter, Patrick, Philip, and James Grace, and their respective issue male; remainder to the right heirs of the said Pierce Grace." Certain lands were also "held for the use of Joan Horsfall, relict of his late son and heir apparent Oliver, for her life; and likewise for the use of Ellane Condon the said Robert's wife, for her life with remainders, over as before." The premises

eternally branded with the stigma of falsehood and of ignorance, for giving foul misrepresentations of what they knew, and of omitting, through design or want of information, those circumstances which alone could explain the transactions, concerning which they attempted to write. Hoping therefore to see these interesting points yet become the subjects of historical investigation, we shall here merely notice the several commissions of forfeiture which issued about the last mentioned period. On the 6th of February, 1690, and before the termination of the war, a commission issued, directed to Francis earl of Longford, Anthony bishop of Meath, Robert Fitz-Gerald, esq. sir Henry Fane, knight, doctor Robert Gorges, William Robinson, Joseph Coghlan, Edward Croker, and Henry Davies, esqrs. to enquire after, and seize the goods of all forfeiting persons in Ireland (3d William and Mary. 1 part f. r. 18.) After the cessation of hostilities, a similar commission issued to John Weaver, sen. William Mollineux, and John Holmes, esqrs. (5th 1 p. r. 20), with whom were associated sir Michael Mitchel, knight, and Charles Deering, esq. on the 4th of April following (same roll d. r. 20) and on the 25th of January 1695-6, sir Richard Pyne, knight, sir John Lyndon, knight, Thomas Coote, esq. sir John Hely, knight, sir Richard Cox, knight, sir John Jeffreyson, knight, Robert Doyne, esq. sir Henry Echlin, knight, and N. Donnellan, esq. were appointed commissioners to hear and determine the claims of persons pretending to be comprehended within the articles of Limerick and Galway.— (Rot. pat. 9th year 1 p. f. r. 22).

comprising the manor of Tullaghroan alias Tulla-Proprietors roan, extended to Taylorstown, with power to hold courts baron and leet, to enjoy all waifes and strays, &c.*

Robert Grace is said to have greatly improved and augmented the castle of Inchmore, on the banks of the river Nore, about 4 miles from Kilkenny, and

* *Courts Baron* and *Courts Leet*, which are so frequently mentioned in early charters and grants from the crown, are very ancient institutions of justice. They were courts of limited jurisdiction established by king Alfred, through the medium of which justice, both in civil and criminal cases of the minutest kind, was brought home to every man's door. These courts, which originally belonged to the king, were granted by royal charters to the lords or barons of those hundreds or manors, within which they were held. The *court baron* (*curia baronis*) was formerly held every three weeks to decide all controversies relating to lands, and to determine pleas, personal actions of debt, trespass or on the case, not amounting to 40s. in value arising within the manor. The *court leet*, (Saxon *Lat censura*, and called by Spelman, *curia prisca inter Saxones*;) was limited by *Magna Charta* to be held but once a year at Michaelmas. This court was also called "view of frank or free pledge," i. e. a court to view or take cognizance of the frank pledges or freemen within the district, who, according to the institution of Alfred, were mutually free pledges for the good behaviour of each other. It was held for the preservation of the peace and punishment of divers minute offences against the public good, and enquired of all offences under high treason committed against the crown and dignity of the king, which were certified to the judges of assize, but this court having been for many years past much disused, the business, which formerly had been transacted in it, is now done at the quarter sessions of the peace in each county.

Waifes or *wayfts*, were goods taken by force or theft, and waived or left behind by the felon upon being pursued. These belonged to the crown, except when transferred by grant to the subject. *Strays* or *estrays* from the old French, *estrayeur*, were strayed cattle found within any lordship, which being cried according to law in the adjacent market towns, and not claimed by the owner within a year and a day, become by law the property of the king, or of those to whom these incidental rights were granted.

Proprietors converted it into a noble residence. Defence does not appear to have been an object in this mansion ; an old tower of great size, and a moat were the only vestiges that remained of feudal warfare. From the existing ruins and fine situation, when more richly adorned with wood, and possessing, as it still does, water, and an infinite variety of ground, this place must have been singularly beautiful. It presents, from numerous points of view, an exceeding picturesque appearance. The approach harmonises very happily with the surrounding landscape, which in some places exhibits the woody character, and at others shews the winding Nore and the opposite country. Robert Grace of Courtstown died between the years 1637, and 1640, and was buried in the cathedral of Kilkenny. The manor of Tullaroan, and his other estates, then passed to his grandson John Grace, son of his eldest son Oliver Grace of Inchmore, who died before him, on the 6th of July, 12th Charles I. (1637) and was interred in the cathedral of Kilkenny on the 10th of the same month.* Oliver Grace of Inchmore married Joan, daughter and sole heir of sir Cyprian Horsfall of Innishnagg, county of Kilkenny, knight, (only son of John Horsfall of Yorkshire, lord bishop of Ossory, during the space of 23 years†) and had issue John Grace, who succeeded his grandfather Robert Grace, in the manor of Tullaroan, as abovementioned, but being a minor, the court of wards and liveries‡ on the 19th

* Funeral entries in Ulster's office.

† Ware's histy. of the Irish bishops, edited by Harris, folio 1739, vol. 2, page 412.

‡ Though notice has been already taken of the court of Wards and Liveries, as well as of the inquisitions post mortem, under the head of



From Sir William Petty's Maps of Ireland commonly called the Down Survey

I Wv/d del:

*Lithographed by Wyld & King 10. Terrace. Bayswater.
London.*

The
PARISH
of
BULLAROAN
or
Grace's Parish
in the
County of Kilkenny

Reduced from the County Survey
made by D. Sher. & H. Clements
1818

Tubrid to Freshford
Parish

Mount. Mendon
Road to Freshford

COUNTY OF TIPPERRARY
Munster River
Stewardship of Bar

Ballymarna Parish

Ballywilliam Parish

Killmanna Parish

Scale of One Irish Mile
1 mile

The number of acres here ascribed to
the several Town Lands are taken from
the Barony Books.

Lithographed by Wild & King, 10 Terrace Bayswater.
London.

J. Wild del.



of February, 12th Charles I. (1637) granted his Proprietors wardship to sir Cyprian Horsfall, his maternal grandfather, for the fine of 300l. Irish.*

On the expulsion of the Stuart family, after the execution of Charles 1st, the manor of Tullaroan, was seized by the commonwealth, and a survey† made of it by sir William Petty in 1654, for the pur-

feudal tenures, it is hoped some further illustration of the subject, will not be unacceptable. "Inquests of office, says sir W. Blackstone, were more frequently in practice than at present, during the continuance of the military tenures amongst us, when an inquest of office was held, called an "Inquestio post mortem," to enquire of what lands a man died seized; who was his heir, and of what age, in order to entitle the king to his marriage, wardship, relief, primer, seizures, or other advantages, as the circumstances of the case might turn out." "To superintend and regulate the enquiries (he adds) the courts of Wards and Liveries were established by Stat. 32, Hen. VIII. c. 46, which was abolished at the restoration, by K. Charles II. together with the oppressive tenures on which it was founded." It is to be observed that Blackstone is not quite correct in stating that the courts of Wards and Liveries were instituted by that statute. The court of Liveries, which had separate officers, was established by 33 Hen. VIII. chap. 22d. There was a master of the Wards and a surveyor of the Liveries; but the business of the court was transacted in the same place, and by the same persons. It was a court of record, and had a seal, and exercised its powers in Ireland, without any express statute, but by commission under the great seal. The first commission is dated at Westminster, July 3d. 1544. The following appear to be the first appointments, except commissioners, viz: December 23d. 1622, sir William Parsons, knight, and baronet, to be keeper of the seal at 300l. per annum, English. Sir Richard Bolton, knight, to be attorney at 200 marks salary, and William Barker, esq. to be surveyor at 100 marks salary.

* Lodges' MS. in Thr. rec. cast. Dub.

† The reader is presented with the fac-simile of an authenticated copy of this survey, accompanied by a modern survey taken in 1817, by messrs. Aber and Clements, the minute accuracy of which fully justifies the high character these gentlemen merit and possess for scientific knowledge and practical skill. Vid. p. 62 of the introductory part to the 2d vol. of this work.

Proprietors pose of distribution among the soldiery, as confiscated land. The great, though faulty work, of which this map of Tullaroan forms a part, is well known under the title of the Down-survey.* Dreadful as are

* As preceding and illustrative of the Down survey, it may here be noticed that in 1635, when lord deputy Wentworth, made a progress into the west, for the purpose of finding the king's original title to Connaught, there seems to have been made a partial sort of territorial survey, connected with this piece of violence, and the inquisitorial measures growing out of it. There must also have been a good deal of this sort of investigation carried on under the administration of general Fleetwood, the son-in-law of Cromwell. An act of Parliament decided, 1st. That the persons convicted of any murders committed in the beginning of the war, were to have their estates entirely confiscated; 2d. Those merely engaging in the war, were to be banished, and to forfeit two thirds of their property. Now the examination of these facts, and the apportionments of forfeiture, accruing under them, must have produced some examination into the location and extent of the subject matter thus put into jeopardy. This examination produced the *Down Survey* of Ireland by sir William Petty, a great and good man, whose assertion must be implicitly believed, that he employed no man, not fully qualified, and furnished with the necessary instruments. In the present improved state of science, and of the instruments employed by it, a new survey might be doubtless undertaken, with great advantage to the cause of knowledge. It is scarcely possible to reason more conclusively on this point, than by simply observing the glaring difference between the ancient and modern survey here given of Tullaroan, or Grace's parish. The magnificent labours of col. Mudge and his son, with dr. Olynthus Gregory, joined by M. Biot from France, have now done all that science can do by their operations from the Balaric islands to the most northern of the Shetlands. "They have traced," to use the very happy expression of the Edinburgh review, "the longest line, which the finger of science ever drew upon the surface of the globe." The administration has been most deservedly praised, for the liberality and steadiness, with which it has supported the trigonometrical survey of Great Britain from its commencement. Let us hope that this great benefit may be speedily extended to Ireland. This hope is expressed from a regard to the cause of science. But there are other causes, more immediately and imperiously, acting upon our dearest interests. The country is labouring to its centre in its pecuniary relation-

the atrocities ascribed to the party, fruitlessly opposed to the commonwealth; those practised by their oppressors were of a still worse character. It is mentioned in lord Clarendon's history* that some soldiers of the king's army, "being taken in Grace's parish, Col. D. Axtel, (with republican sternness,) caused all the inhabitants of the village to be apprehended; hanged three of them, and sold the rest to the Barbadoes." The recovery of this ancient property, may be attributed to a special ordinance,§ of the lord Protector, bearing date the 30th of August, 1654. In the preamble it is stated, that, "whereas it hath appeared upon examination, that John Grace of Courtstowne castel, in the countie of Kilkenny in

ship: and shall an intellectual government, influenced, as in the preceding instance, by the very purest views, neglect to do what every prudent man in private life does? The tradesman takes stock from time to time. Land holders have their estates surveyed, and upon those surveys found their calculations, and govern their measures. In Ireland, there is at this instant, abundance of zeal, talent and knowledge, quite enough to meet any demand which may be made upon it. It will not be foreign to the matter here before us, to notice a remarkable coincidence of character and circumstance. As lands were granted out in Jamaica to the original settlers, planted there by Cromwell, upon the utter expulsion of the Spaniards, they were officially surveyed in the same manner, and for the same purpose as those in Ireland were, and the maps preserved in a public repository, duly secured. Upon every transfer of the property, a new survey is made and compared with the original one; and it is an uncommon, and perhaps singular fact, that the needle is never found to have experienced any variation in the intermediate periods. With respect to the origin of the name *Down Survey*, it is commonly described as derived from its having been *laid down* by the chain: a bold etymology enough. The authority of lord Strafford refers the name to the mode of survey, adopted by the dean and chapter of Down.

* Appendix to History of Rebellion and Civil Wars in Ireland. p. 354.

§ Lib. de Council-office in Tur Rec. Cast. Dub.

Proprietors. Ireland, Esq. was in the yeare 1641, (when the late horrid rebellion broke forth,) in ward and under age; and in the tyme of the said rebellion, hee did relieve diverse of the English; and was noe way accessary to the murders, massacres or robberies, committed by the rebels, and that protection was in April 1649, granted by the then lord Lieutenant of Ireland†, to the said John Grace and his tenants, ever since which tyme hee hath been faithful to the English interest, and done many acceptable services; in respect whereof hee had an assurance, under the hand of the late lord deputy Ireton, that he should be admitted to a composition for his estates, at an easy rate, and that he would recommend him to the Parliament in that particular. Bee it therefore ordained, by his highness the lord Protector, &c. &c." Notwithstanding this ordinance, Tullaroan appears to have been kept possession of by the commonwealth, for nearly two years; and the Protector's private letter on the subject to Charles Fleetwood, his son-in-law, then lord Deputy of Ireland, is still extant:

"Deare Charless,

"The bearer, Mr. Grace, having obtained an ordinance from ourselfe and Councell, in reference to his compounding for his estates, and being by reason of sickness hindered from going over into Ireland to prosecute the same, the perfecting of his commission hath been retarded; and being now going over thither, hee hath besought me to recommend his case to you, that he may have a speedy and favourable dispatch of that business, which I most earnestly desire of you, upon the merits and equity of his case, hee being, I think, the only person that the late lord Deputy did soe particularly recom-

† Oliver Cromwell, was himself, "the then Ld. Lieutenant of Ireland."

mend to favour, upon the accompt of his forwardness Proprietors, and readiness to assist the English forces, and interest.

I rest your loving ffather,
Oliver P."

White-Hall, August 9, 1655."

Tullaroan and his other great estates in this and the adjoining county of Tipperary and the Queen's county, were, however too noble a prize to be quietly abandoned, at either the public command, or the private request of even the lord Protector; and the following official letter† was therefore addressed, "To the right honorable, the lord Henry Cromwell, and the rest of his Highness's Councel for Ireland."

"My Lords,

"His Highness, having with the advice of the Councel, long since passed an ordinance on behalf of John Grace, of Courtstown, Esq. for admitting him to a composition for his estates in Ireland, upon the terms expressed in said ordinance;—The Councel being informed, in his Highness's presence, that that business hath not yet received a conclusion in Ireland, have thought fitt to recommend the same to the Councel there, to afford him as speedy a despatch as may be, in perfecting his composition, to the end, hee may enjoy the benefit thereby intended him.—Signed, in the name, and by order of the Councel.

He. Lawrence Presedent."

White-Hall, 21 December, 1655."

In the year 1656, complete possession appears to have been recovered of Tullaroan, but the composition imposed, was so unusually heavy, that the

† Lib. de Council-office in Tur Rec. Dub. Cast.

Proprietors. Protector was again prevailed upon to interfere, which he did, by an order signed by himself at Whitehall, on the 23d of October, in that year, directing the lord Deputy to reduce it, and to allow a longer time for the payment. The proposal of an individual, strengthened by the influence of his official power, to accept of a liberal indemnity in the province of Connaught, in exchange for Tullaroan, was for a long time urged and supported with hostile deeds and threats, but as constantly rejected with a hazardous firmness. A possession of five hundred years must doubtless have rendered Grace's country, valuable to this family; far beyond it's intrinsic worth, and the recovery of their baronial castle, their ancient patrimony and feudal adherents, was the just and eager object of hereditary pride.

“ The lofty scenes around their sires recall,
Fierce in the field, and generous in the hall ;
The mountain crag, and stream and waving tree,
Breathe forth some proud and glorious history,
Urges their steps, where patriot virtue leads,
And fires the kindred souls to kindred deeds.
They tread elate the soil their fathers trode,
The same their country, and the same their God !”

It will be a very cold feeling, and little in sympathy with the sentiments here expressed, to regard the loss of mere property, as the most severe portion of the visitation. It is the laceration of our best affections, that thus breaks into our bosoms, and there snaps but too many a link, which bound us together, to the memory of those who had gone before us. But,

such sentiments were not confined to the immediate family of the proprietor, they were the vivid sentiments of a numerous race or clanship of the name, † occupying the wide extent of Grace's country. Proprietors.

Tradition has perhaps magnified the Protector's partiality, and the instances of it still talked of among the peasantry, and in the family are indeed very great; but, without regarding uncertain anecdotes, a more authentic or stronger proof of peculiar favor, could not be evinced, than that of restoring the possession of this

† This family spirit of clanship, descending lineally, and collaterally spreading itself, was particularly strong among the population of this parish, of whom nearly a whole regiment might be raised of the name of Grace, from within the immediate vicinity. In like manner, upon the death of the late Walter Kavanagh, of Borris Esq. no less than seven hundred persons bearing his name, assembled in attendance at his funeral. Among the tribes of Galway, this feeling is powerfully predominant, and in Scotland, it is in course, unnecessary to state that there, every man bearing the same name, regards himself as a kinsman to his laird or chief, and is in turn so regarded. In Grace's country, the feeling is not less strong and fixed, and upon no occasion recorded, has its manifestation ceased to be very distinctly evinced. The patriotism too, of this sentiment was condensed by the compression of hostility in the royal Milesian septs of Fitz Patrick, who were placed close in their neighbourhood, with every possible convenience for frequent battles. The tales of these exploits are the tales most dear to the descendants of the combatants engaged in these encounters; and with a filial piety of forgetfulness, they cannot remember one single occasion upon which they were ever worsted. It will be recollected that as the Fitz-Patrick's were aborigines, so their opponents had descended from Scandinavia into Normandy, thence into England and Wales, and, upon the invitation of Dermot Mac Morough Kavanagh, from their domiciles there, into the more fertile region of the "Plains of Leinster." The reader will at the same time recall to mind, that the Grace family, (a branch of the House of Windsor) though thus allied and blended with a Norman race, was, in itself of Tuscan origin, just as the House of Hanover wound its way from the same source through Germany, until after many a lapse, it found its embouchure among the British Islands.

Proprietors. manor, and other considerable estates to a roman-catholic gentleman and a royalist. Some parts however of the hereditary Grace-property, were still successfully withheld by these soldiers of fortune. On a more important occasion, we have seen the profered indemnity of lands on the western side of the river Shannon, firmly rejected, but this lesser evil appears to have been silently and perhaps prudently acquiesced in, and it was eventually rendered irreparable by the act of settlement. Ludlow observes, that Cromwell himself restored Mr. Grace to his great estates, and sent a letter in favor also of the lord Fitz Williams, "thus endeavouring to fix himself on his throne, by extending all favor and kindness to the cavalier party" † On the Restoration, the manor of Tullaroan and divers other lands were specifically confirmed to John Grace of Courtstown Castle, Esq. by clause 198 in the act of settlement, § passed in 1662. But all the impropriations and appropriate tythes, and the several houses belonging to him in Kilkenny were excepted, and granted away to the duke of Ormonde. *

† *Memoirs*, vol. 2.

§ *Parliamentary Journals*.

* This great Nobleman, so distinguished for his loyalty, and connected by Blood with the family of Grace (and at this time Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and necessarily entrusted with governing the arrangements under the "act of settlement,") might possibly have insured the safety of their whole property to themselves, but to him it seemed more expedient to strengthen his local influence, and enlarge his sphere of patronage, by vesting these appropriations and houses in his own proper family. For this, and many other similar facts not less curious, "The unkind Deserter," a book which may be found, though with difficulty, in some libraries, can give full proof. There is a reason and a cause for the extreme rarity of this little tract. For the Duke's family in order to keep such secrets within the "prison house," or, at least to prevent it from walking too much abroad, purchased, at any

A patent was likewise passed to him, dated 21 of February, 22 Charles II. (1670) for the remittal of all Quit and Crown rent † imposed on his estates. In

Proprietors.

price, wherever they could find it, this obnoxious piece of evidence. There was at least, the shame of conscience in this. It is to be lamented that such a stain should be found upon such a character: but we are all men, the children of the fall. The gentleman thus despoiled, had, in acknowledgment of his rank, assigned to him, under the marshalling of the heralds, in the procession of no less than *fourteen* peers and *twelve* commoners, distinguished in course, by their property as well as by their near connexion by blood, with this illustrious Viceroy, the *fourth* place among the latter. The procession thus marshalled, occurred upon the death of Lady Mary Steward, the wife of his younger son, the Earl of Arran, on the 4th of July 1668,—vid. vol. 14, page 94, of funeral entries in Ulster's office.

† *Crown rents* arise in Ireland in a great degree out of the reservations made on the grants of the lands belonging to the religious houses, suppressed by Henry VIII. (vide Howard's Revenue, vol. 1.) and lands forfeited by traitors, principally in Ulster, which were afterwards let out by the Crown (vide Carte's Ormond, p. 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18). They also, arise out of rents reserved on the grants of lands by Q. Eliz. to Irish chieftains in Connaught and Munster, who surrendered them to the queen, and which she was enabled to grant to them by Statute, 12 Eliz. Ses. 1. C. 4.—*Composition rents* appear to have had their origin by Stat. 10. Charles I. C. 3. the object of which Statute is, to enable the Crown to compound with persons, who either could not authenticate their grants from the Crown, or whose grants were considered defective by it. The Crown is enabled to secure the possessions of such, by letters patent, upon compositions for fines, or rents, or both, to be reserved to his Majesty, and for these fines or rents their possessions are confirmed to them. It is evident that the rents paid under the grants of 2. Elizabeth, might be called composition rents, and they have been called so by some writers; but strictly speaking, the term refers to the rent reserved under Charles's patents, when the word was first used. So *Quit-rent* may be defined "any rent paid to the Crown by its tenant." Conformably to the obvious derivation of the word, it is called in ancient record, "*quietus redditus*," by the payment of which the tenant was quiet and free. It has also been called white rent, because paid anciently in silver. The term may be said to come into official use from the act of settlement, to the rent reserved under which the

Proprietors 1686 (2 of James II.) he was appointed high sheriff and lieutenant governor of the county of Kilkenny, and in 1689, he represented that county in Parliament. On the Revolution, he raised a regiment of foot and a troop of horse at his own expence, for the service of King James, whom he further assisted with large sums of money. Tradition informs us, that possessing a high character and great influence,† he was early solicited with splendid promises of royal favour, to join King William's party, and, that yielding to the strong impulse of honourable feelings, he instantly on perusing the letter of the invading general, seized a card, accidentally lying near him and unceremoniously wrote upon it his spirited answer, expressing his utmost contempt for the proposal, and his determination of firmly adhering to the oath of allegiance he had taken to King James II. This card, which he sent uncovered by the bearer of the rejected offer, happening to be the six of hearts, is to this day very generally known by the name of "Grace's card," in the city of Kilkenny. Thus the nine of diamonds is styled the curse of Scotland, from Duke William writing his

term in Ireland more immediately applies. An endeavour is here made to mark the periods by which the rents denominated, Crown-rents, Composition-rents, and Quit-rents refer.

† The voice of tradition is clear and positive, that his influence as well as possessions was great and extensive: but "the assent of reason has been aided by the wings of imagination," when the popular song of the rustic bard proclaims his sway over "20 castles, 50 villages and 5000 men," though such might possibly be said with some truth, of the earlier feudal lords of this parish, it was certainly not applicable to any individual whatever at the period of the Revolution. Long before that event, much land appears to have been alienated in frank-almain and frank-marriage. The expences also, of petty warfare, and the establishment of younger branches must have further contributed to diminish, and invade the rights of primogeniture, in a territorial point of view.

sanguinary orders for military executions, after the battle of Culloden, upon the back of that card. The wisdom of a step thus rendered as irrevocable, as it was momentous, may indeed be impugned, but a sacrifice of interest to conscience, so undisguised and great, must always be honoured. Proprietors.

When King William obtained possession of Dublin, after the decisive battle of the Boyne, it is said the unfinished patents of the dethroned Monarch, for creating John Grace, sir Patrick Trant, and sir Stephen Rice, peers of Ireland, were found among the papers of the fallen government. The battle of Naseby, says Gibbon, decided the judicial fate of Charles I. for that field was the court in which the trial had been conducted. The banks of the Boyne exhibited a different sort of tribunal, but the decision was not less final.

In the preceding part of his section, the author could have enlivened the gravity of antiquarian disquisition, with many traditionary stories of border forrays in the days of black rent and coigne and livery.* The Fitzpatricks

* Coyne or Coigne and Livery, was a custom whereby exactions were made by great lords and their retainers upon landholders and husbandmen, principally in the marches: a lamentable account of the depredations thus committed is given in the preamble of a statute (28 Hen. VI. chap. 1.) made against it. By that statute and by several others, viz. 3d. Edw. II. chap. 1. 40 Edw. III. c. 17. (one of the statutes called the statute of Kilkenny) and by 10 Hen. VII. c. 18. in which express mention is made of the 40. Edw. III. very severe punishments are enacted against persons guilty of those offences. It would seem that the custom was suppressed in Elizabeth's reign, by sir Henry Sindey, lord Deputy; for in the preamble to the act of subsidy, 11. Eliz. C. 1. the parliament say "we being moved by sundry great causes of joy and comfort which we daily receive through your majesty's inestimable

Proprietors, and Mac Moroughs appear to have been their most frequent and vigilant enemies, and the origin of Grace Castle near Castletown, where the territories of the former sept bounded Grace's Country, may perhaps be as justly ascribed to motives of plunder, reprisal and feudal annoyance, as to that of defence which its frontier situation implies. The deaths of three elder sons of the baron of Courtstown, slain in an unsuccessful encounter with Murtough, Dynast, or King of Munster, is still bewailed in traditionary verse profusely embellished with the flowers of fiction. The peasantry give locality to the story, by shewing the part of the rivulet where the wearied horse of the last brother stopping to drink, the pursuing enemy overtook and slew him in the water. Thus Paulus Æmilius "insons cædis" on the disastrous day of Cannæ was found "oppletus sanguine" sitting on a stone, and slain by the victors. But events like these must formerly have occurred in most families of note on the borders of the Pale,* and the detail of them would be foreign to

goodness, in providing for us so profitable a governor, as the right honourable sir Henry Sidney, knight of the honorable order, now lord Deputy of this your majesty's realm of Ireland, who, by his great travail of body and mind, and sincere and upright administration of justice, had not only through your highness's maintenance and supportation put in suspence that grievous and intolerable exaction of Coyne and Livery, that fretor of our lives and substance, but &c." This is the last mention of Coyne and Livery in our Statute book.

* The Welsh marches seem to have been well defined and strictly-maintained, but on the side of Scotland, their character appears to have been pretty significantly described, by the term of "the debateable land," in the bloody suit constantly going on for its possession. It had in fact, become a mere place of refuge for banditti of every kind, who could find in it an asylum, or beyond it, an escape from their own country's laws. The muse of Walter Scott, has loved to rove

our purpose. It happens however from the circumstance of the Graces continuing in the male line, and proprietors here for so many generations, that fewer events worthy of the reader's particular attention have been discovered on record than might have been expected, immediately relating to the parish and manor of Tullaroan. We have indeed, seen many pieces of popular poetry, commemorating its local events and the remarkable exploits, as well as the births, marriages, and deaths of the Grace-family. These poems are in the Irish language, and some of them after surviving nearly two centuries solely by tradition, have been lately transcribed from their oral sources, and are by no means destitute of merit. †

along this tract, which has now reached a degree of notice, which no mere antiquary could have conferred : nor while William of Deloraine continues to gallop along his night expeditions, will the bold freebooters of that district be forgotten. In Ireland, the boundary line of the *Pale* was in a constant state of fluctuation, and seems in truth to have depended for its present extent at any time, upon the mere quantity of force which the contending parties could respectively command, for either attack or defence. During the wars of the Roses, it struggled like any other septish ground, amidst the incessant contentions of the land ; until in the more settled time of queen Elizabeth, it was finally denounced by lord Mountjoy, as merely giving a *term* which had cost twenty times more in blood and money, than the country was worth. King James's laws followed, and the pale wholly disappeared. But, with the pale, there did not disappear a vast mass of poetical traditions which still survive, to tell of the prowess, the crimes and the miseries of the times they commemorate. Will no Irish muse arise to rehearse these as Walter Scott has compelled the muses of Scotland to tell their tales ?

† For the gratification of our readers, in the sister kingdoms, we are tempted to introduce the following specimen of Irish poetry, which is of more recent origin, and less obscured by allusion to obsolete customs and ephemeral local occurrences, than those referred to. While the bard singles out the characteristic features of Grace's country, and notices

Proprietors. Baron John Grace of Courtstown died in 1690, having married Elizabeth, eldest daughter, and eventual co-

the feudal exploits or rural pleasures of its ancient lords, he strongly marks the prevalence of popular feeling in the sympathising peasant's emotion, on one of these overwhelming events, which for an honourable adherence to the unfortunate house of Stuart, the revolution inflicted on some of the noblest houses in the three kingdoms. Our text might be made to tragically illustrate the desolating fury of this political tempest, in the vicissitudes and adverse fate of the last of the old proprietors of this parish. Though the metrical translation is not unfaithful, it is far from doing justice to the strength and pathos, the artless diction and affecting turn of sentiment, in some parts of the original.

Ţիւ իւր իւր հարաւ.

Ա շիւ իւր իւր հարաւ իւր ալիւն իւր ծառ,
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 Օ հիւսիս իւր իւր իւր ծառի ծառի
 Ծառի ծառի ծառի ծառի ծառի ծառի,
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 Ծառի ծառի ծառի ծառի ծառի ծառի,

heiress of Walter Walsh of Castle Hoel county of Kil- Proprietors.
kenny, (by his wife Magdalen Sheffield sister to Ed-

Jr leatpa gac mairt ari talam jr feldir,
Jr'gac mōi mairtior da dēigir ran tpaogal ro,
Ar mo cpeac bōn jr cūmad mo cpaoidē e:
Ar kada na maird paoid gmadam do fpaoidē
luī a naoidē ran cainphioī do tpaocā,
luī leōna na dteōir ran ēirleac,
luī gairge aḡar fearidact do dēanair:
Jr buad caā ari an maāirpe cpaopag,
luī na gcairleān cean ari aolmair,
luī na wairtpeacā beanu gē dēanair,
luī na n-dūnta aḡar cūirime glēirta,
Wair a mbjoctatūge aig klātūge cum fēirta
Wair a rpeagadaoir an Earcapairb ōirta,
fionta fairirige dob kada tair boāna,
Ari hāllūde bana buō gairt an cōir rin:
A bāine an rinne paoid mēōir le ceōlta,
Aig eirdear dānta o baird ceairt ēirnean,
Jr reancar fion ari gmoimairta Rēmair,
An Ceap ōirdeiric don mōir fūil gārac,
Ari dtuir fuair fearair jr realb ran airtro;
An tpaoid gluar an gairgīdeac go morbuō-
ir tair taoide,
'rdo fuair dūcā aḡar clu ā dāoine.

TRANSLATION.

GRACE'S COUNTRY,

COUNTRY OF GRACE! by heav'n divinely plann'd!
Well till'd and peopled is thy fertile land,

Proprietors. **mund Sheffield** 2d earl of Mulgrave, and grand-annt
and eventual sole heiress of **Edmund Sheffield** 2nd

From narrow Nore's bright stream extended wide,
By level Munster's gay and flow'ry side,
Thence, (wid'ning far, where Munster-river flows)
To fam'd Kilkenny,—powerful o'er its foes.

Thy fields are spacious, and thy meadows green,
And snow-white lambkins gambol o'er the scene,
Thy groves delightful, decorate each glade,
And widely spreading, form a grateful shade,
While wavy autumn gilds the fruitful soil,
To recompence the hind's industrious toil.

Through golden vales, thy crystal riv'lets flow,
There silv'ry fishes leap and sport below :
With hounds and horn chas'd o'er the mountain's height,
Thy native roe-buck flies from morn till night;
And fox and hare, the nimblest of their race,
Are hunted down, and wearied in the chace.

COUNTRY OF GRACE ! by heav'n divinely plann'd !
A cloudless sun illumines thy smiling land ;
Each good is thine, that nature can bestow,
And ev'ry blessing that's enjoy'd below.—
But ah ! what woes these iron times impart :
Woes that must sadden ev'ry grateful heart.

Ill fated land ! thy joyous days are o'er,
Thy good, thy generous chieftains are no more,
Whose mighty arm pour'd vengeance on the foe,
Who laid th' invader in the battle low,
Whose hardy valour ne'er was known to yield,
But triumph'd ever, in the ensanguined field.

Whose castle-towers in feudal splendor rise,]
Whose sacred abbies glisten to the skies ;
Who rear'd the fort, and rear'd the palace halls,
Where festal merriment, oft rung the walls,
Where mant'ling wine in golden cups went round,
And Erin's harp pour'd forth its silver sound.

duke of Buckingham and Normanby,) by whom Proprietors. he had, among other issue, Robert Grace the next proprietor of Tullaroan, and a younger son Sheffield Grace who died in 1684, leaving issue by his wife, Elizabeth dowager viscountess Dillon, an only child Catherine Grace. Robert Grace of Courtstown Castle was appointed May 18th 1687, in his father's life time, governor and custos rotulorum of the King's county, where, in right of his wife, he was heir to the castle of Moyelly and a considerable estate, and in 1689 he was returned to Parliament for the borough of Thomastown. He was lieutenant-colonel of his father's regiment of foot, in the service of King James; but the Courtstown estates were for the present secured to his family, by the articles of Limerick, in which he and his second son John were included. He died in 1691, having married Frances, only daughter and sole heir to colonel Richard Grace,* of Moyelly Castle in the King's county, (chamberlain for many years to King James the second, while Duke of York,† and his governor of Athlone§ when lieutenant general Douglas failed in his siege and attempt to gain that important place in 1691,) by whom he had issue two sons, Oliver and John.

Baron Oliver Grace of Courtstown survived his father only nine days, dying unmarried in 1691. He held for a short period the rank of major in the army of King

Where ceased the dance, the tuneful harper done,
 A minstrel sung the praise by Raymond won,
 Illustrious Raymond, author of that race,
 Which settling here, first took the name of Grace,
 When to Ierne's shores the warrior came,
 And crown'd his followers with immortal fame.

* Bibliotheca M.S. Stowensis, Press. 2 No. 12, 13 and 14.

† Memoirs of K. James II. edited by Clarke.

§ Vide survey of Athlone, in this volume.

Proprietors. James, when severe indisposition obliged him to retire to the south of France, after which he never saw his father, or even knew of his decease; having returned in exhausted health a very short time preceding that event, and consequently subsequent to the ratification of the treaty of Limerick. In this treaty his father and his younger brother, as we have already seen, were included, though his fatal absence from Ireland necessarily precluded him from participating in its benefits. These circumstances were known only to his immediate family, and the utmost secrecy was observed respecting them, as certain ruin was evidently involved in the disclosure. Their marked and efficient exertions for King James against the prevailing government, and their great possessions were no ordinary incentives to confiscation. On his death the manor of Tullaroan and his other estates, which, as he was ignorant of his father's death, he never even knew he had inherited, immediately passed to his next brother, John Grace then of Courtstown Castle. In his undisturbed possession they remained till the year 1701, when a bill of discovery was maliciously filed against him by the dowager viscountess Dillon (the relict of his uncle Sheffield Grace,) upon his refusing to comply with her demand of £500. which she had endeavoured to extort from him by the threat of this base disclosure. This most infamous act consequently obliged him to set forth his title before the court of claims, where the treacherous informer had previously discovered the concealed circumstances of Oliver's survivorship. His estates were soon pronounced to have been forfeited by his elder brother Oliver, the presumed proprietor of them for nine days, who was found (under the general act of attainder against King James's adhe-

rents) to have been indicted and outlawed in the county of Meath for bearing arms under that Prince, which outlawry owing to his absence from Ireland on the surrender of Limerick, had never been reversed.† Tullaroan and his other estates thus forfeited produced at that time an annual rent exceeding £9000, and had

† But, notwithstanding this decision by the court of claims the occupants, at *four years purchase*, appear to have felt their situation somewhat precarious. Under the influence of this apprehension, these new owners began the work of ruin; the castle of Courtstown was immediately stripped of its leaded roof, which was transported to Clonmel and there sold; and the want of this protection, soon completed the destruction, which the more active delapidation had begun. The woods were felled from off nearly 500 acres; and the trees floated down the river Nore, on their way to Waterford, or burned to charcoal, a process of which the pits remaining to this day, preserve abundant proofs. On the other hand, the whole transaction of the forfeiture was so foul and so disgusting to every honest man of whatever party, that the real proprietor himself entertained no fears respecting the issue. In fact, when the property was set up to sale under the order of the court of claims no applicant for its acquirement at a fair value appeared; but our purchasing adventurers seem to have thought it a good gambling speculation and “took the long odds,” if the gambling phrase may be allowed. Why all these fears and hopes should equally have been attended with no ulterior consequences, some domestic circumstances, in which the public may take no interest need not here be mentioned however decisively they operated to their frustration. Suffice it is to say that when Mr. Grace repaired to London, for the purpose of obtaining the powerful assistance of his kinsman, the duke of Buckingham, then lord president of the council in whose house he resided, an appeal against the decision of the Court of Claims was determined on being made to the House of Lords, but the noble mover in intention, chose, at that critical moment to abandon the cause, and the evil thus became irremediable. This domestic quarrel acted as the very strongest guarantee of the purchase, and has so continued to act, under that conveyance and its assignments. In illustration of the principle, in which the destruction above mentioned operates, it may be observed, that the very same thing has since occurred during the French revolution, in the hasty sales, and pullings down of the numerous chateaus, which then so violently and rapidly passed from hand to hand.

Proprietors. been in the possession of the Grace family 530 years.*

In enumerating the successive proprietors of this parish, care has been taken to avoid an uninteresting nomenclature of younger children, or the notice of collateral branches and barren pedigrees, "skelletons without meat, and bodies without soul." the succession indeed of some of these territorial lords were merely visible in the glimmering of old records and could only be reduced to a clear and regular series by the "nice microscope of chronological criticism" † But though the writer has been solicitous on this occasion to securely rivet each connecting link of the genealogical chain, he has in some cases reserved for a more scrutinizing effort the final act of joining them. He has also forborne to notice as fully as he might have wished, the perishing traces of those actions by which, places now bare and desolate have been formerly distinguished. For while he conceived facts rather than results, details rather than reflections, to be the primary steps in statistic research, and the raw material or primitive matter to ground statistic deduction upon, he also forcibly felt that even in these the exercise of a severe discretion, must in a work like the present, be somewhat unsparingly applied. But of this last palitannate baron of Courtstown (John) who had been aid-de-camp to the

* Vide p. 69, of introductory part to vol. 2 of this work.

† GIBBON—The following passage occurs in this eloquent, philosophical, and able writer's memoirs of himself, "a lively desire of knowing and recording our ancestors so generally prevails, that it must depend on the influence of some common principle in the minds of men,—we seem to have lived in the persons of our fore-fathers.—Our calmer judgment will rather tend to moderate than to suppress the pride of an ancient and worthy race. The satyrst may laugh, the philosopher may preach, but reason herself, will respect the prejudices and habits, which have been consecrated by the experience of mankind."

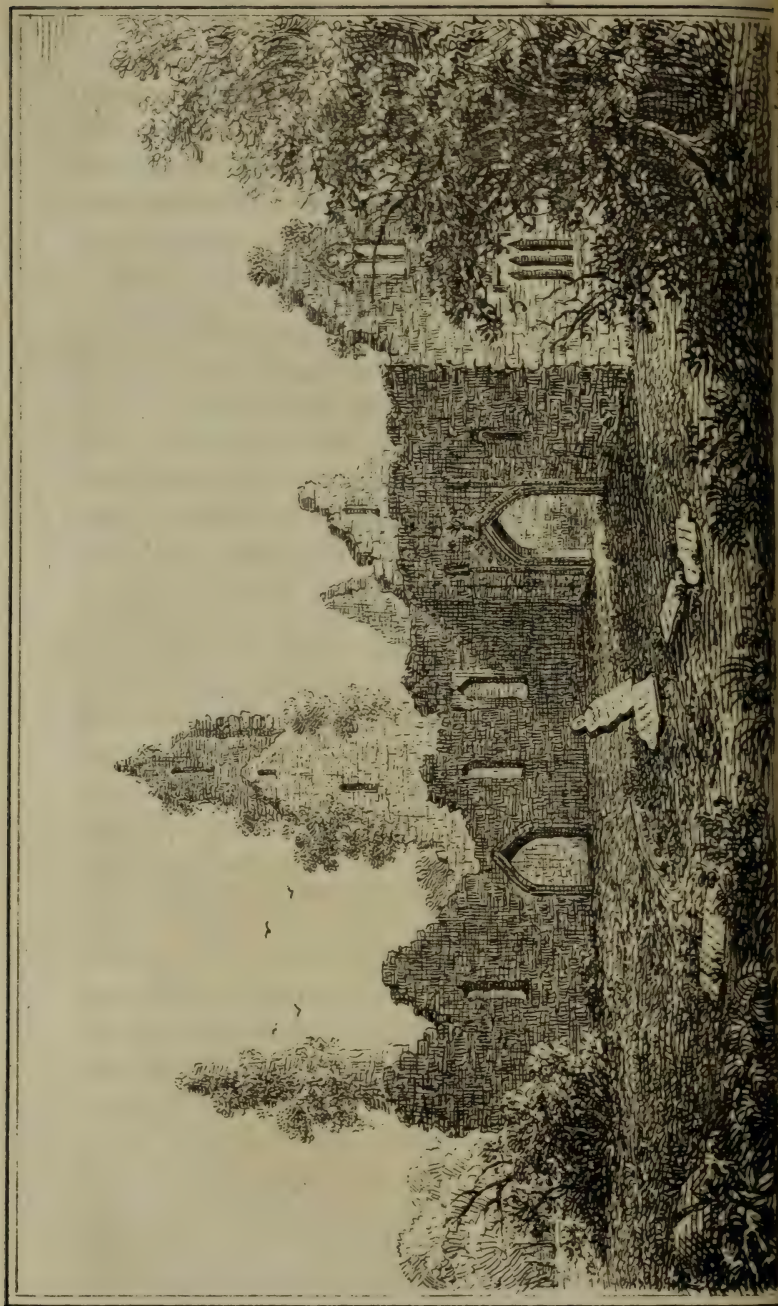
celebrated general Sarsfield (earl of Lucan) through-
out the war in Ireland between King William and King
James, it may be allowed to add that his intrepid and
generous spirit amidst scenes of slaughter and cruelty,
was not unworthy of the honorable name and rank to
which he was born, though his subsequent indiscretion
of a private personal nature prevented the recovery of
his patrimonial estates, occasioned the eventual loss of
even a nobler inheritance, and in fine, consummated the
ruin of his line. By his wife Letitia, daughter of
Oliver Grace of Shanganagh (now Gracefield) in the
Queen's county, he had an only son, Robert Grace,*
who on the downfall of his family entered into the french
service, it is said, as a private soldier, though he had
attained the rank of captain when he retired from the
army; on inheriting as co-heir at law with his cousin
Michael Grace of Gracefield, the undevised part of
the great Sheffield estates in the counties of Sussex,
Middlesex and York. Robert Grace settled at Isle-
worth near London, and dying unmarried, with him
terminated the direct Courtstown line of the Grace fa-
mily. In the "Survey of the trustees for the sale of
forfeitures," the manor of Tullaroan, and 38. town-
lands of these estates† are stated to have been pur-
chased by the "Governor and company for making

* On the birth of this Robert, which preceded the forfeiture of his
birthright, the bells of thirteen churches on the estates to which he was
the supposed heir, and numerous bon fires testified the popular opinion
that then prevailed, of his future prosperity.

† The very learned and accurate author of the minute and highly
illustrative analysis of that important record of unexampled national
proscription the "*Down Survey*," mentions, that the estates forfeited
and lost by this family on the first and second expulsion of the royal
house of Stuart, amounted to 32,870 acres of land.

Proprietors. hollow sword blades," but the castle of Courtstown and other parts of this parish, appear after passing through some intermediate and transitory possessors to have become very early in the last century the property of the ancestor of sir Wheeler Cuffe, baronet, and are now in his possession.

An apology may perhaps be by some thought necessary for introducing such of the foregoing details as are of a private or domestic nature, but in fact, biography may be always, not merely pardoned, but called for, as being not only, interesting in itself, but carrying with it in a manner peculiarly strong and characteristic, the history of manners; the department of history, which, we may upon the authority of both Robertson and Johnson, as well as the reason of the thing itself, pronounce to be by far the most interesting and instructive of its parts. Upon the present occasion the reader will have already perceived, that considerable use has been made of the opportunity so presented, and in no species of work, perhaps could the opportunity itself have been so apt as in the variety and plastic nature of a statistic work, in which biography must constitute a constantly recurring subject. The notes here appended, have therefore, been mainly written, for a purpose so essential to an undertaking designed to collect and to communicate useful knowledge in the way of either illustrative anecdote, or historical information. It may even be affirmed, that the chief value of this section will be found in the notes so given. It must at the same time be lamented, that a work, intended by its statistical researches to display Ireland to itself and to Great-Britain, should be suffered to languish in its progress for want of a suitable degree of patronage. Shall we never learn, that true patriotism does not consist in vapouring about the coun-



try and it's people, and calling out into the field of battle any luckless stranger who may express a doubt of the supereminent excellence attributed to both, but in improving the one and promoting the happiness of the other !

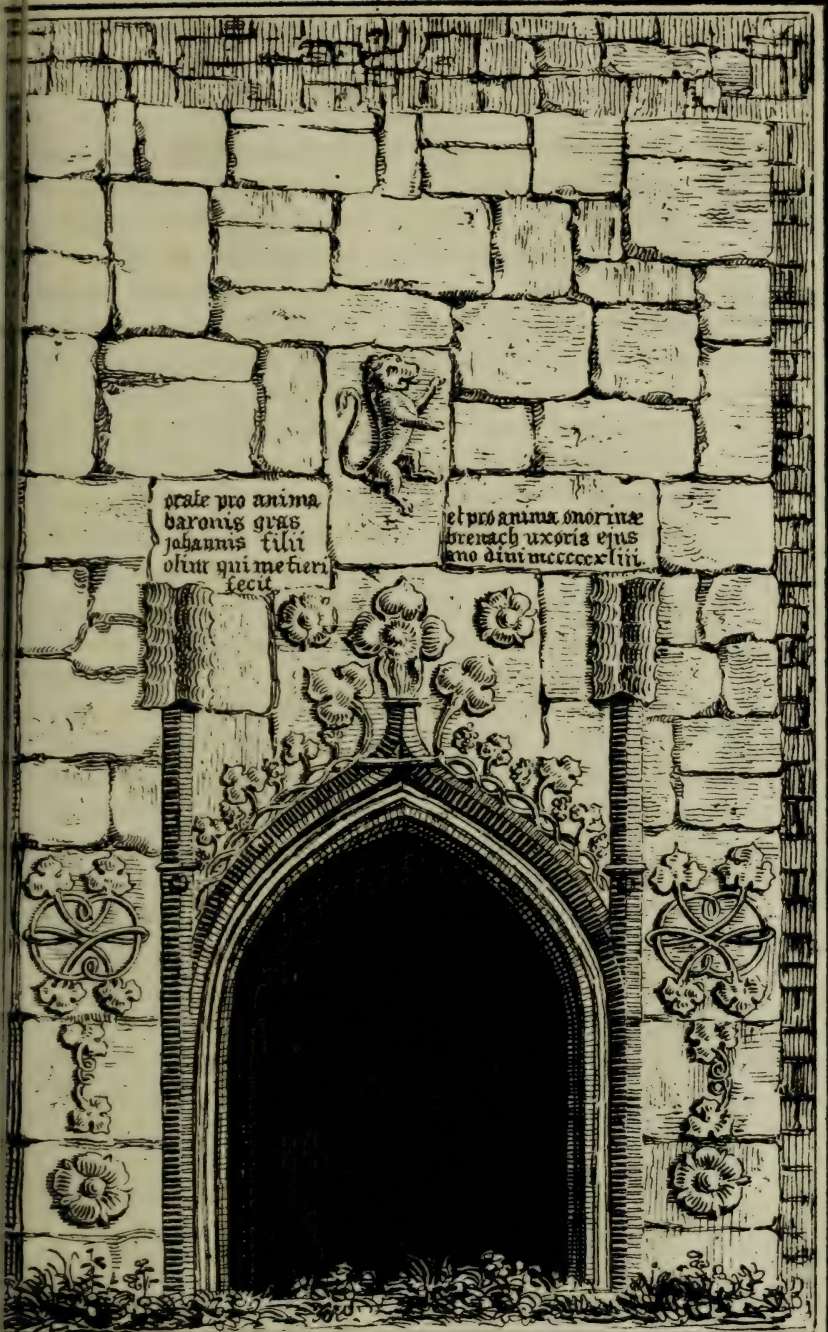
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About half a mile to the east of Courtstown Castle stands the ruins of Tullaroan church and Grace's chapel, both founded by the Grace family, with drawings of which the reader is presented. The architecure of the former exhibits nothing curious or uncommon, though many circumstances mark it's antiquity. It's smallness, it's semicircular as well as pointed arches and narrow oblong windows seem to indicate that its construction was in the 12th century. The east and south exterior walls are still standing, but most of the north wall has been thrown down, and the high gable to the west is nodding to its ruin. The eastern window, consisting of two narrow oblong divisions, is still entire. An entrance through a pointed arch, and 3 windows are to the south. The interior consists of a choir 35 feet by 18, and a nave 37 feet long, divided by a wall, through which is a pierced high pointed arch, supporting a bell-frey. In the choir there are two seats erected in the wall which must have been constructed long after the church was built, as the arches of them are beautifully turned, in the order of Henry VII. chapel, which Dr. Milner calls the 2nd order of the pointed arch. Had the person who got these erected, also got the east window altered, and its arch made of the same order, Tullaroan church would have presented a singularly handsome appearance even in decay. There is a niche in the south wall near the eastern window terminating with a pointed arch at top, and at bottom with a concave

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stone for the purpose probably of containing the holy-water. Beyond this niche is a small arched door-way leading from the church into Grace's chapel, which forms the southern wing of Tullaroan church, and produces in the general outline of the building the figure of a Greek gamma Γ , or two sides of an oblong. The dimensions of this chapel are about 27 feet by 17, and the workmanship of it is so excellent, that the exterior walls are to this day almost uninjured, though for more than two centuries exposed to every vicissitude of weather. It has two narrow windows of pointed arches, adorned with labels to the east, a large window consisting of three similar divisions to the south, and to the west a window like those to the east, and a very richly ornamented entrance through a pointed arch, of which the reader is presented with a fac-simile drawing. This door-way is profusely decorated with sculpture in bold alto relievo. The exterior mouldings of a very deep architrave meet in a high point, surmounted with a large trefoil leaf, on either side of which are smaller trefoil leaves, that terminate an exceeding rich catenation work, formed from the interwoven stocks of the bearded corn-ears and trefoil leaves which project alternately from this vegetable chain. At the turn of the arch on each exterior side of the architrave, is a knot of 4 leaves curiously entwined, somewhat similar to a Stafford knot, and lower down, another description of knot with two leaves, and at bottom a large single rose. The intricate moulding of these flowers in Kilkenny marble, exhibit an astonishing degree of accuracy and delicate precision. A rose is also on each side of the large trefoil leaf already mentioned, as surmounting the architrave, and over this trefoil leaf stand the armorial bearings of the founder, viz. a lion rampant,



Photographed by Wyld & King

Nº 10 Terrace Bathwater London

WESTERN ENTRANCE TO GRACE'S CHAPEL ADJOINING
 TULLAROGH CHURCH.

with the two following inscriptions in alto relievo, Gothic characters——“orate. pro. anima baronis. gras. johannis. filii. olim. qui. me. fieri. fecit.”

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“et. pro. anima. onorino. brenach.* uxori. ejus. anno. domini. mcccccliii.”

The burial place of the Grace family being in the cathedral of Kilkenny, may account for the little remains of monumental inscriptions that appear in this church. There are, however, six tomb-stones of considerable antiquity. The inscriptions in gothic characters, which have been deciphered on three of them, are as follows :

hic. jacent. corpora. jacobi. gras. quondam. de. corstowo. baronis. gras. filii. et. ellis. uxoris. ejus. qui. quidam. jacobus. obiit. ultimo. die. augusti. anno. domini. mcccccliii. et. dicta. ellis. obiit. tricesimo. die. decembris. anno. domini. mcccccliii.

hic. jacent. petrus. butler. quondam. dominus. de. bonnestown. qui. obiit. octo. die. mensis. januarii. anno. domini. mccccclxxb. et. helena. gras. ejus. uxor. quæ. obiit.——die. mensis.——mcccc.——

ricardus. gras. filius. roberti. de. adamstown. et. uno.——
Some colonel Grace who is much talked of, and apparently much admired by the peasantry, is said to have

“Brenach,” is the translation into the Irish language of the name of “Walsh ;” a family of high antiquity, and at this period of vast possessions and of considerable repute in this county. The baron of Courtstown, in the text, married Onoria, dowager of Walter Walsh, of Castle Hoell, Baron Shanagher and lord of Walsh’s country, and by the marriage of his descendant already mentioned with Elizabeth Walsh and of John Bryan of Bawumore, with Ursula Walsh (whose only surviving child Elizabeth Bryan, married Oliver Grace, of Shanganagh, now Gracefield) the two daughters and eventual co-heirs of Walter Walsh, of Castlehoel, and of Magdalen Sheffield of Mulgrave, the Grace’s of Courtstown and of Gracefield become the co-representatives of the Castlehoel or elder branch of this ancient family. From younger branches, the lords Walsh and the counts Walsh de Serant in France are descended.

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died about 150 years ago, and to have been interred in this church, but no remains of his monument are distinguishable,

“To plead his rank and birth-right, under ground,

“Precedency’s a jest; vassal and lord,

“Grossly familiar, side by side consume.”

BLAIR’S GRAVE.

Tradition also assigns a spot within these walls to John Grace of Courtstown Castle who lost the great patrimony of his ancestors by his elder brother outliving his father nine days, and by the treacherous disclosures of the lady Dillon, his uncle Sheffield Grace’s widow already mentioned. No “storied urn or animated bust” oppose the progress of oblivion, but the sympathising peasant readily points to the unsheltered sod that covers him, and contemplates with satisfaction and expatiates with complacency, on the solace his spirit derives from the place selected for his remains. “*Hinc enim orti stirpe antiquissima: hic sacra, hic genus, hic majorum multa vestigia.*”† An ancestor of marshall Henry Clarke duke of Feltre in France, who claimed alliance with the Grace family, directed his body to be interred here. It lies under a plain table monument with this inscription “Here lieth the body of Mr. Gabriel Clarke, who died the 6th of October in year 1728, aged 63.” In an out-house wall adjoining one of the neighbouring cottages, there are some fragments of armorial bearings in stone of the Grace and Shee families with supporters and their respective crests. This stone might possibly have belonged to a funeral monument erected in this church, or to some public

† Cicero de legibus.

or charitable edifice founded in the parish by sir John Grace, who died in 1602, having married Let-^{Monastic Antiquities} tice, the daughter of sir Richard Shee, knight.

The church of Tullaroan, dedicated to St. Mary, is rectorial, and was anciently in the patronage of the Grace family. During the Commonwealth, the right of presentation was not exercised by them, and on the restoration it was transferred by the act of settlement to the crown, from whence it passed to the 1st duke of Ormonde, in whose heirs it still continues. The neighbouring parishes of Kildrinagh, Killaghy-Grace, Ballycallan, Kilmanagh, and others, were also formerly in the patronage of this family. To the south of the church are some remains of foundation-walls, which are said to have belonged to a small friary, founded by the Grace family. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and a dependant cell on the great Dominican priory of Rosibercon. Part of the eastern window of this monastery was standing about the middle of the last century (1760). At the rath of Rathely-Grace, there are still some remains of the eastern window, and of the gable end, and side walls of an old church, with common spike holes, for windows. The dimensions of this church, which also attests the piety and opulence of the feudal barons of Courtstown, are 30 feet by 18; and near that of Killaghy-Grace, which was likewise of their founding, one of them had a residence, and part of the walls of the old house or castle of Killaghy, are yet standing.

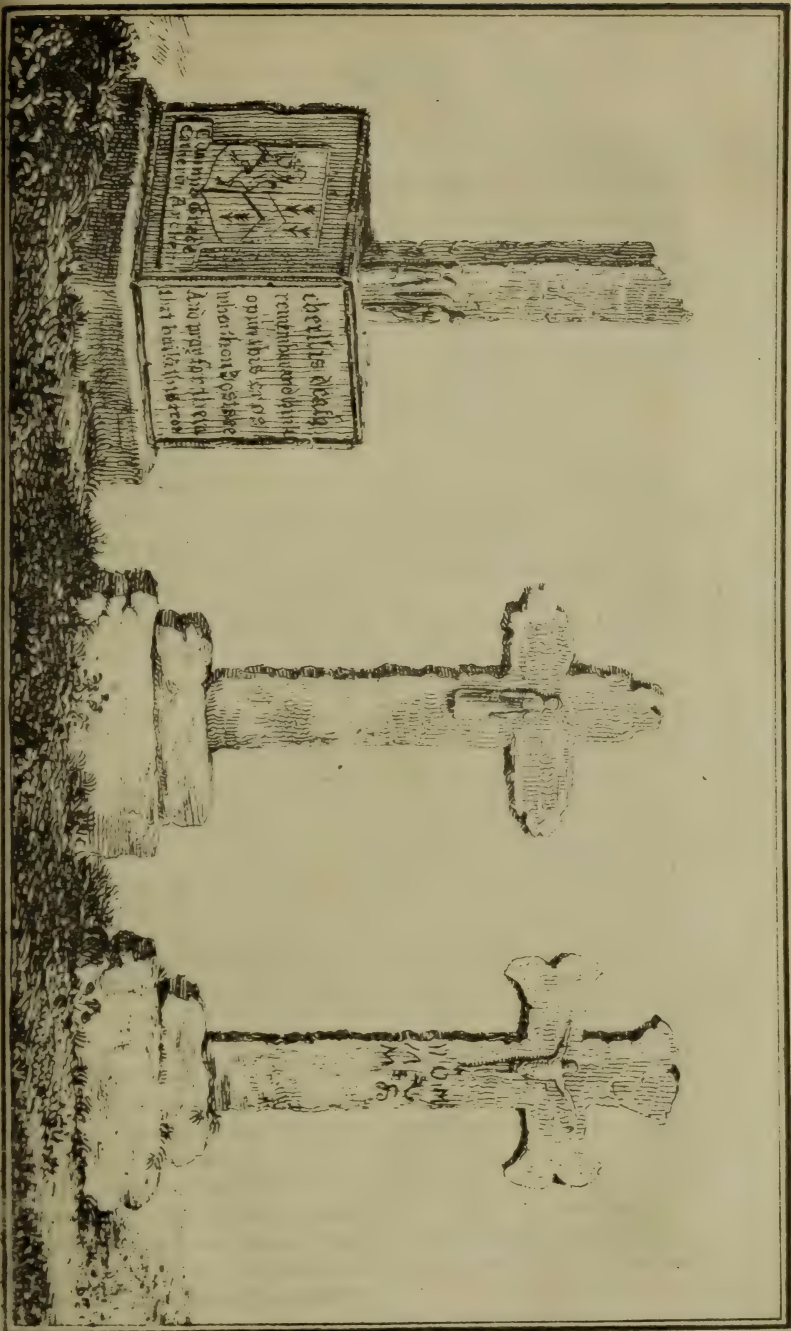
About a quarter of a mile to the north of the church*

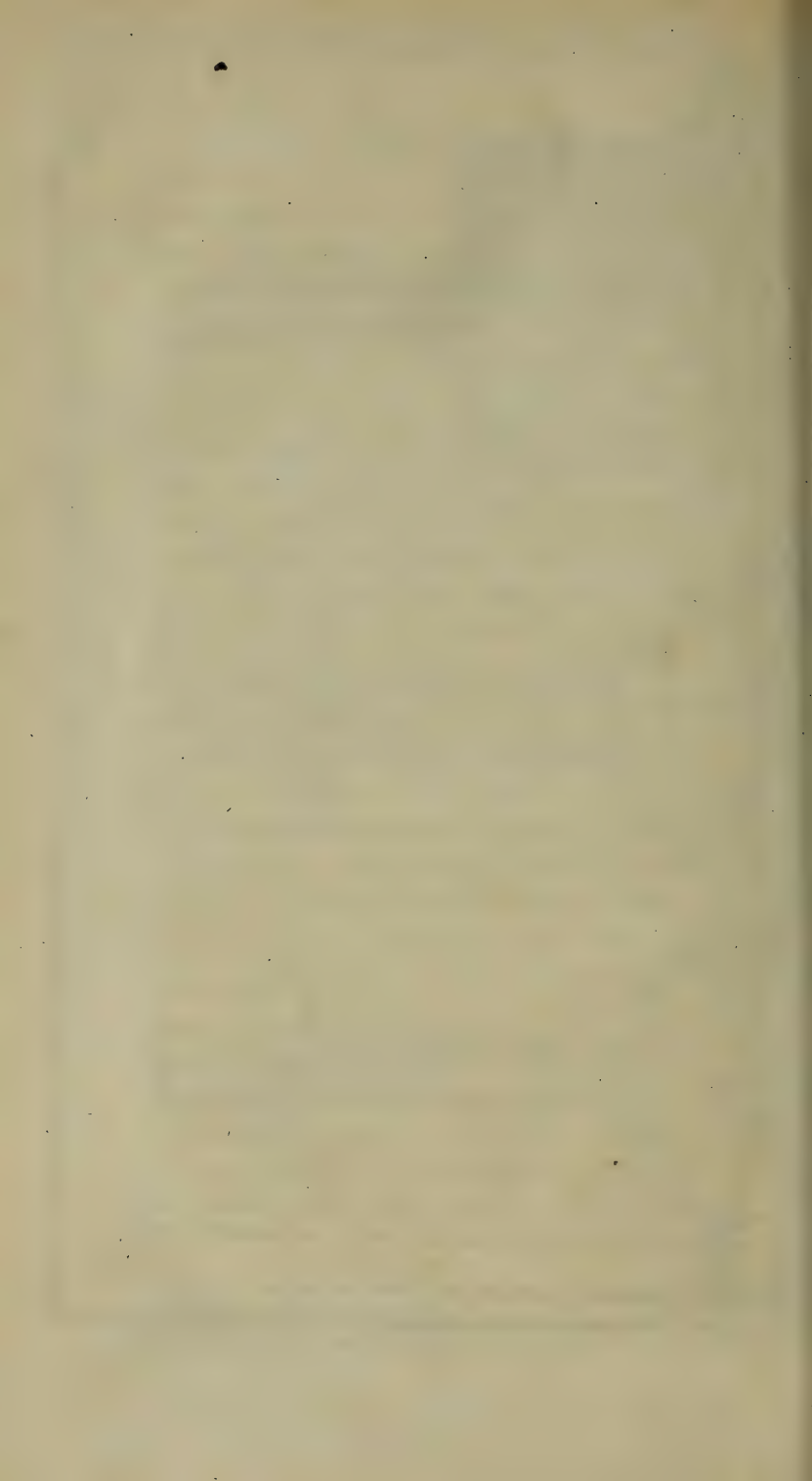
* An apology is offered for remarking to the compilers of some of the foregoing Surveys, that the bearing, by the compass, with relation

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at the cross road in the village or hamlet of Tullaroan, two handsome stone crosses (represented in the annexed engravings) erected by the Grace family are still to be seen, one having on the centre an alto relievo of our Lord, with a cloth round his waist, and on the shaft the mutilated remains of an inscription, from which nothing can now be gathered. The other cross has also an alto relievo figure of the Virgin, or of some female saint in long flowing drapery. Of this latter cross a tradition prevails, that a French lady of high rank who followed one of the Grace family from France, on finding he was married, built this cross, as well to reproach his inconstancy, as to evince the piety of her resignation to disappointment. She is said, however, on returning to France, to have sought forgetfulness, by immuring herself in the gloom of a cloister. A third cross erected by this family is also still remaining, and a drawing of it is presented to the reader. It stands on the road side near Bonnestown, between Tullaroan and Kilkenny, and distant about two miles from the latter. It is said to have been designed to commemorate the melancholy fate of a young man of the family of Courtstown, who had been only two days married, when he was killed at this spot by a fall from his horse. On the west side of the pedestal is a shield with a lion rampant, impaling a chevron between three arrows, and under the shield the names of "r^{ed}-mund. grace." and "catarin. archer." in alto relievo gothic characters. On the south side is inscribed in

to churches, castles, &c. should be inserted; for local descriptions it is obvious, should be always such, if possible, as to enable the topographer to construct from it a map.





the same characters “cheill. is. death. remember. and. think. upon. this. cross. when. thou. dost. see. and. pray. for. them. that. build. this. cross.” On the east side may be deciphered “12. of. au.—1619.—catarin. archer. als.—deceased. the.—that. build. this. cross.” The only words discernible on the north side are “sacr.—monumentum.*” About half a mile to the west of this cross is a stone, with some rude unintelligible characters, said to be Irish. The peasantry call it “Clogh Grasagh,”

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* The date of this cross is somewhat remarkable, as being not less than sixteen years after the accession of king James I. to the throne, and seems to shew that the “old religion,” as Melancthon called it, was still in practical operation in the country parts of Ireland. After predicating the coldness of death, the prayer solicited, intimates pretty plainly that the soul yet survived in another state, and required this last of consolations. The tribute of affection paid by such erections, is perhaps no where more splendidly exemplified, than in the several stages marked by them along the line of queen Eleanor’s progress, from the place of her death, to her burial in Westminster Abbey. Abroad in catholic countries, crosses are often seen along the road side, marking the spot where death had taken place by either accident or violence, and soliciting the prayers of the passengers for the deceased. In like manner, one of these crosses commemorates, as already noticed, the untimely death of a younger member of the Courtstown family, who was killed by a fall from his horse. The stones inscribed with the Ogham characters, and occasionally met with through the country (in the Walsh mountains, for instance, in this county, and near Curraghmore, in the county of Waterford) are generally supposed to have been land marks, and the law of Moses, which made accursed the removal of these signs of property, was strengthened by the form subsequently bestowed upon them. Upon the druidical monuments remaining in such numbers both in this country and in Scotland and Wales, not a trace of a character has ever been seen, and the authority of Cæsar would appear to shew that in religious matters, the Druids carefully guarded against the exposure of any of their mysteries to the hazard of profanation by committing them to letters. They were therefore diligently, and by a strict course of discipline, inculcated into the memory of the aspirants to the office of the priesthood.

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(Grace's stone) and say that from that spot the funeral procession of some popular favourite of this family extended to Kilkenny, and that those who happened to be in the rear, stood here while the ceremony of interment was performing in the cathedral. Many other local traditionary anecdotes have been omitted, as relating more to biographical than topographical events, but the fidelity of these traditions, as founded in strict truth (though perhaps somewhat heightened in colouring, and by the addition of minor incidents) would have justified their admission, had they been considered applicable. The author of *this section* who personally collected much of its original materials, not only from the oral records alluded to, but also from written records of the highest authority, was at first exceedingly surprized at the frequent confirmation of the former by the latter, respecting events over which the obscuring shadow of more than two centuries have passed, and which were certainly never printed. But when we observe the facility, as well as accuracy with which the Irish peasantry, ignorant of written numbers, form a computation, it ceases to be surprising that in such an habitual exercise of memory, the circumstances in which their forefathers participated with the chieftains of the day, should be tenaciously retained and faithfully transmitted. Constantly engaged as they were in scenes of petty warfare, bardic traditions are still found to be the oral records of the more popular exploits of their feudal lords, who

“ Were of fame
And had been glorious in another day.”

CHILDE HAROLD. C. I. S. iii.

It is almost impossible on this occasion to associate ^{Monastic Antiquities} ancient history with existing fact, to bring as it were the past into contact with the present, and to exclude the moral interest which such combinations are calculated to excite. The strong, faithful, and beautiful delineations of lord Byron, are strikingly apposite.

Pride! bend thine eye from heaven to thine estate,
 See how the mighty sink into a song!
 Can volume, pillar, pile, preserve thee great?
 Or must thou trust *tradition's* simple tongue,
 When flattery sleeps with thee and history does thee wrong.*

CHILDE HAROLD, C. I. S. xxxvi.

In the foregoing compilation attention has been paid to chronology and matter, rather than to manner. “*Sparsa et neglecta coegi.*” Ingenious conjectures and brilliant style are less essential to an antiquary’s success, than persevering industry and close enquiry; and the art of curtailings, is far more necessary than that of amplification. The survey of a parish might easily be swelled into the history of a county, or even of a kingdom. It is thus that the house of Windsor* may possibly at some future period, by deducing the narrative of its several branches of Windsor, Carew, Grace, Fitz-Maurice, Gerard, Fitz-Gerald, Mackenzie, and Fitz-Gibbon, from their first Anglo-Tuscan ancestor (contemporary with Alfred) be made to constitute an interesting compendium of striking events in English, Irish, Scotch, and Welsh history. But the present work, a compilation of mere facts, enables any gentleman to contribute such local collections, as this section contains, to the national stock of topogra-

* Page 62 of introductory part to vol. 2. of this work.

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phical knowledge, and to assist in marking some of the æras, the "mile-stones," which in the gradual progress of society, measure the road from primitive barbarism to modern civilization. The advantageous results indeed, of any work that at all tends to illustrate the varying conditions, genius, arts, manners or customs of mankind in past ages, as furnishing the most authentic data of historical deduction, must surely be obvious to every man of education. When minute local, or antiquarian details can be brought to bear upon historical points, they seldom fail to confirm or correct, and they frequently either elucidate them, or reveal a path to important discoveries. But from political struggles, the neglected and decaying state of our national records* and the

* It is with no common satisfaction that an enlightened mind contemplates the operations of a royal commission issued for arranging, methodizing, and digesting these national records. This measure was determined on in consequence of an address in 1810, from the House of Commons to the Prince Regent, pointing out the great risques to which these important documents, in their then disarranged and neglected state, were exposed, as well by erasure, alteration, mutilation and embezzlement, as by the accidents of damp, vermin and fire.

Most of the public records, notwithstanding that enquiries on the subject had been made in 1723, and 1791, were found to be in a state of very great confusion, and of very rapid decay. Many of them were irretrievably obliterated, and of others no vestiges whatever remained. The present is the first substantive effort that has ever been made to organize and perpetuate the muniments of this country; while Rymer's *Fædera*, and other earlier works, testify the laudable anxiety and patriotic care which, during the last three centuries, have contributed to the preservation of the English records. Even at the period of the Union, feelings such as these were unknown here. That event having led to the disposal of the house of parliament to the bank of Ireland, the parliamentary records were injudiciously deposited in a house in an adjoining street, exposed to every risque of fire, and with very little means of reference or investigation. Those of the courts of law were, with the exception of such as were frequently consulted,

want even of parish registers, research has been hitherto not only greatly vitiated and impeded,

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piled up in heaps and bundles without indexes or references. Their actual state may be best guessed at from the circumstance, that when the records of the auditor-general's office underwent an investigation, their contents were estimated by the ton weight. The inferior repositories, both civil and ecclesiastical throughout the country, were found to be in most instances, in the private houses of their respective keepers, in many cases neglected, and in some not forthcoming.

After the actual state of the records throughout Ireland had been ascertained by means of returns from their several keepers, persons properly qualified were appointed to investigate each repository, and after having by a process of arrangement ascertained their contents, to form repertories and indexes to such as were found to require them, so as to put upon record the fact of their actual existence at this period, to facilitate future references, and to make selections for printing, either wholly or partially, those of most importance to the public.

The records intended for more immediate publication, are as follows.

1st. A complete and authentic edition of the Irish statutes from the earliest on record to the Union. The result of the investigation on this class of records, with which the lives, liberty, and property of every Irish subject is so closely connected, was the discovery of several rolls of statutes hitherto unedited and unknown; also the discovery of many detached statutes which had been entered on pleadings and other legal records. A diligent collation of the printed statutes with the rolls and transmissess led to the correction of many errors which had crept in during the process of printing. This edition is nearly ready for the press.

2d. A collection of state papers, royal acts, charters to cities, towns and other public bodies, and various other public instruments, tending to throw light on the political state of Ireland during the earlier period of its history, from the time of Henry II.

3d. Repertories to the patent and close rolls of chancery, and to the memoranda rolls of the exchequer, as also to the inquisitions post mortem and attainder, in both these courts. These documents, which throw great light upon the state of property, and on the family history of the country, have been hitherto nearly inaccessible from want of references and indexes. A celebrated writer on Irish antiquities obtained liberty to examine their contents, but on surveying the chaotic mass

— rudis indigestaque moles

Non bene junctarum discordia semina rerum.—

Or. Met. Lib. I. Fab. I.

Monastic but nearly impracticable. Hence it happens, that
Antiquities while the more interesting local events of almost

he relinquished the attempt in despair. The value of their contents may however be estimated from the use made by Harris, Lodge, and Archdall of a partial knowledge of them.

4th. Selections from the ecclesiastical records, among which is, a taxation of the ecclesiastical property of Ireland, by Pope Nicholas IV. anno domini 1292, found among the records of the court of exchequer at Westminster.

5th. A catalogue of the MSS. in the library of Trinity College Dublin. The catalogues of the MSS. in the Harleian, Cottonian and Lambeth collections already published, have been found of the utmost value in facilitating the researches of the curious. It is to be hoped that the measure will be extended to all the public collections throughout the empire. With respect to private collections, in which many valuable MSS. are deposited, the marquis of Buckingham has set a noble example by printing, solely for presentation, a highly interesting catalogue of the important MSS. in Stowe library. This work, which is peculiarly rich in writings relative to Ireland, will be found to contain many of the Chandos MSS.; and the learned doctor O'Connor has displayed in it his accustomed critical accuracy in historical and classical knowledge. It may, perhaps, be somewhat premature to notice a similar catalogue of the Holkam or Leicester collection of MSS. a work in which the munificence of Mr. Coke, and the high and varied literary attainments of Mr. Roscoe, will appear combined. In the marquis of Ormonde's evidence chamber at Kilkenny castle, are deposited several hundred bundles of MSS. each containing numerous original articles. These commence very shortly after the Anglo-Norman conquest of Ireland, and extend to the beginning of the last century. Though this vast mass of authentic documents relates chiefly to transactions connected with the predecessors of the noble proprietor, it also contains much national and an unrivalled quantity of curious topographical and local family history. Literature and patriotism would ever gratefully acknowledge the liberality that would direct the formation of an illustrative catalogue, similar to those already mentioned, of the contents of this unique collection. Such a work, the sound judgement, quick perception, and historical researches of Mr. Barwis, in whose custody they are, could not fail to satisfactorily execute. To the personal exertions of sir William Betham, this country stands indebted for the enlargement of a very interesting branch of its history. The numerous MS. genealogical collections, and the professional knowledge of

every village in England and Scotland are minutely detailed to the public, those of Ireland are to this

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that gentleman have rendered the office of arms a source of certain, valuable and extensive information. It may be asserted without fear of contradiction that so favorable an opportunity never before appeared of supplying in a work, similar to Dugdale's English barouage, a fund of invaluable materials for Irish history. The present moment it must also be admitted is peculiarly auspicious to the formation of a general and illustrative repertory (on a plan much fuller than bishop Nicholson's,) to every historical work or document extant relating to Ireland. The bibliographical researches, chronological skill, and official facilities of the Revd. Edward Groves, a member of the Record commission, eminently qualify him for this very useful and very difficult undertaking.

6th. A list of the patentee officers of Ireland from the earliest period to the present time. This work was compiled by Mr. Lodge, author of the Irish Peerage, from the records in his possession as deputy-master of the rolls. It is intended to be revised, the chasms left by him filled up and brought down to the present time.

Several repertories and indexes to the contents of other record Repositories are forming, copies of which are to be deposited in the respective offices for the purpose of facilitating research. The benefits of such a thorough investigation and developement of the national muniments will not only completely fulfill the objects of the legislature in providing for their future preservation, but throw open, as already stated, a mass of information relative to the former state of the country, whence the historian may derive materials for a work still wanted, though often attempted, a complete and authentic history of Ireland, from the period of the landing of the English.

A more intimate knowledge of this interesting subject can be obtained from the perusal of the 1st vol. of the reports of the Record commission from 1810 to 1815, a work affording the most ample testimony of the zeal, ability, and perseverance of the secretary, and of the other very intelligent persons engaged under the commission, by whom it has been principally compiled. The board has adopted the best means of disseminating a knowledge of its contents by depositing a copy in every record repository in Dublin, and also in those of every clerk of the peace and in every Diocesan registry throughout Ireland.

The votes of the House of Commons inform us that a second vol. has been ordered to be printed. It will contain catalogues of the contents

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day as little known, as they were a century ago, and with this alarming difference, that every year may, and doubtless does, diminish our sources of information, whether derived from written authority, or oral tradition. "The losses of history (Mr. Gibbon forcibly observes) are indeed irretrievable; when the productions of fancy or science have been swept away, new poets may invent, and new philosophers may reason; but if the inscription of a single fact be once obliterated, it can never be restored by the united efforts of genius and industry. The consideration of our past losses should incite the present age to cherish and perpetuate the valuable relics which have escaped," and it has incited the author of *this section*, though a resident in England, to employ himself during a visit to this country, in forming the foregoing compilation, which he now closes without either acknowledging it as the "measure of his mind," or claiming the merit of observing the precept, "l'auteur doit etre plus savant que son livre." The antiquary does not indeed tread the highest path of literature, but it can never be humiliating to follow such pursuits as engaged the attention of Milton, Gray, T. Warton, and other men of splendid talents, or to acknowledge such feelings as perhaps one of the best, as well as one of the greatest of mankind was not ashamed to avow; "we are now treading (says doctor Johnson) that illustrious island which was once the luminary of the Caledonian regions, whence savage clans and roving barbarians derived the knowledge and the blessings

of the Parliamentary records, and Bermingham tower records, now deposited in the Record tower of Dublin castle, as also of those of the rolls of Chancery and the chief remembrancer's in the Exchequer and some other departments.

of religion. To abstract the mind from all local emotion would be impossible, if it were endeavoured; and it would be foolish if it were possible. Whatever withdraws us from the power of our senses, whatever makes the past, the distant, or the future, predominate over the present, advances us in the dignity of thinking beings. Far from me and my friends be such frigid philosophy, as may conduct us indifferent and unmoved, over any ground which has been dignified by wisdom, bravery or virtue. That man is little to be envied, whose patriotism would not gain force on the plains of Marathon, or whose piety would not grow warmer among the ruins of Iona."*

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V. *Present & Former State of Population, Food, &c.*

The number of houses, by the best calculation the writer could make, is about 410. Calculated at six to a house, which is the smallest proportion that can be given, the number of inhabitants is 2460. The preponderancy if any is on the side of the males, and it can only be a majority of 20 or 30. The proportion under fourteen years of age, is about 800—above sixty years, 130. About 120 of the houses belong to labourers, or men who have only a cabin, or cabin and garden—seven of them belong to tradesmen—the rest to farmers.

By the return made in the year 1731, the population was 677—of which, 129 were under ten years, 66 above 60 years. By the return made in 1800, the number of houses was 331—males 1053, females 1027, total 2080—under fourteen years 717, above sixty years 119. By this it appears the population increased from the year 1731 to 1800 two-thirds, and

* Journey to the Hebrides, pages 346 and 347.

Population from 1731 to 1818 nearly three-fourths;* perhaps the encrease from 1800 has not been real, but apparent, for the writer suspects some cabins which neither paid tax, church-rate or tythe, were not taken into the former calculations, made from the houses in the collection books—still, however, the population is encreasing every year, and must encrease from the circumstances of the country, and more so now than during the war; for when a farmer has neither manufactures, public works, nor the army to take off his superabundant sons, they, when they come to age, look out for some spot of ground, even two acres, which they will take at a rack rent. The next thing is to get married, as a wife is necessary for the house and farm. He then builds a cabin, and has half a dozen children before he is thirty years of age—this in a country where half an acre of potatoes will support a family in the year, and where scarcely any thing else is eaten or required by the great proportion of the poor population, must increase it in a ruinous degree. While the present state of things exists, and there is such a sad want of employment for this class

* It is however to be observed, that the room made for this sudden and rapid increase, originated in the previous exhaustion caused by two several sweeping instances of destruction. The first was under colonel John Grace of Courtstown, who having raised a regiment of foot and a troop of horse, led them after many dangerous services, into the battle of Anghrim, where they were nearly annihilated. The second took place with colonel Richard Grace of Moyeliy castle, governor of Athlone, by whom five hundred men from this neighbourhood were conducted as a reinforcement to the garrison of that fortress. In addition to these came as a co-operative cause, the emigration to France, it is said of all “the unmarried men,” as companions to the last of the ancient proprietors of the parish. Of these a very considerable proportion bore the name of Grace, so that the links binding together the chief and his followers, were of the very strongest nature.

of people, causing our grounds to be chopped up into miserable farms, and multiplying families, that are born to wretchedness and want—when this is the case, it is not to be wondered at, that Mr. Newenham, in his population of Ireland, declares that there is a greater number of people on the same area in this nation, than on the same surface in any country in the earth, China perhaps excepted. The total population of this county has increased from 1731 to 1800, as appears by the returns made to the House of Lords, from 42,108, to 108,000, this is above one and a half; perhaps it is now two-thirds more, if the other parishes advanced in the proportion of Tullaroan: and while the Roman Catholic families have increased in the county since 1731, the Protestant families have decreased 324, if the returns of 1800 be right. In Tullaroan, they have decreased within that time from fourteen families and sixty-four individuals, to two families and five individuals.

The whole parish is inhabited by farmers, chiefly of the name of Grace, the most respectable of whom may occasionally hold his own plough: there are many of them well circumstanced, though not wealthy, and have comfortable houses, not more than six of which are slated, the rest thatched, divided by lime and stone partitions into different apartments, and the kitchens in some of them separate from the sitting rooms. Their food is potatoes, milk, butter, eggs, oatmeal, herrings, and very seldom meat—there are all the varieties of comfort and condition from this, to the poor labourer and tradesman, who live on potatoes and milk sometimes, but with scarcely any addition, except by accident. There are but seven tradesmen in the parish, two shoemakers, two coopers, two smiths, and one taylor.

Fuel. The principal fuel of every class of persons, is culm balls made up with and without clay: they are burnt in small grates, which are kept tolerably clean. These balls, from their slow manner of burning, and the heat they throw out, are a most excellent kind of firing for farmers and the poor, and a smaller bulk of this fuel will last the whole year, than of any description of fuel known in the country.

Dress. The general appearance of the people is very good; they all dress very comfortably, principally in blue frize coats; even the very labourers wear whole clothes and good shoes and stockings, although they have suffered much those two years from want of employment—but there is scarcely a pauper in the parish. Their general stature is from five feet eight inches, to six feet, an active well made people.—There are some of the farmers, whose intelligence and information far exceed their condition in life and advantages; those men try to make the best appearance both inside and outside their houses, and the writer sat with pleasure in some of their sitting rooms, conversing with them.

Health. The state of health is remarkably good, they have had no typhus this year, nor prevalent diseases—pleurisies and feverish colds belong to every parish: the writer has not heard of a dozen such cases this year, though he is generally applied to for medical advice.

Longevity. A few instances of longevity occur; Mr. Walter Grace, a respectable cottager, who farmed a few acres, and was uncle to the late parish priest of that name, is said to have attained the age of 113; four or

five other people who died within the last ten years, Longevity. lived to near 100: there is a man now of the name of Comerford, aged 95, in good health; and a woman, Mrs. Kelly, aged 97 years, who although bedridden, is in as great spirits, and talks as well of former times, as when she was thirty years of age; a more intelligent old woman the writer never met with in her rank of life.

VI. *Genius and Disposition of the Poorer Classes, &c.*

The character of the people of this parish differs Character. very much, as is the case in many surrounding parishes; there is a large proportion of the better sort of farmers as well conditioned, peaceable, and orderly, as is to be found in any part of the country; they are intelligent, rational, and capable of much improvement, but have had no opportunity of intellectual cultivation, nor have their landlords attempted to introduce among them any of the farming improvements of the present day; in this respect there has been very little change these fifty years, but the retired situation of the country, and its neighbourhood to the county Tipperary, introduced some time ago a Shanavest spirit among the lower order of farmers and working people, and some acts of violence and murder have been committed, and a system of terror has accompanied them, which prevented the better farmers from giving any active assistance in opposing them, or discovering the persons engaged in them, although many of them sincerely lament such a spirit and such acts: this is not to be wondered at, when we know that a lighted turf at night can enable a villain to destroy the whole substance of a farmer; and although he may be repaid by the county, this can-

Disposition not recompence the great loss and inconvenience a family must suffer, by being deprived of a house and home, for even the shortest time it might take to rebuild it. Until there is a complete general feeling of opposition to such a spirit, little can be expected in the way of general co-operation. Mr. Peel's bill has done somewhat in producing a private opposition to it in this, and in many parishes from a fear of its effects, which have been so terribly felt in different districts where it was in operation. One of its objects, probably, was to produce a posse comitatus, the grand want in a country of outrage and crime, by obliging the farmers to assist the civil government, rather than suffer the oppression of its effects ; whether it was or not, it has had a secret influence that way ; for the fear of its being introduced into several districts, has operated more in arresting the progress of Shanavestism and outrage, than any other steps that have been taken, and its continuance is to be wished for until the people learn the great evil of such a state of things, and that every man who has any thing to lose will unite in opposing every villain that would attempt to introduce it ; it is then alone we shall find peace and good order in the country. The grand obstacle to our attaining any kind of civil order, is the protection and concealment of the villains who disturb the country, proceeding in too many from consent to their acts, in others from fear or indifference, which now prevents the country from even pursuing the murderer ; and the first indication that will be given of the discovery of the value of law and civil and moral order, will be the willingness of the posse comitatus to pursue and deliver criminals to justice. As far as Mr. Peel's bill has con-

duced to this, it has and will be most essentially ser- Disposition
viceable, more so perhaps than is generally con-
ceived or known.

Both the English and Irish languages are spoken in Language.
the parish—the latter is greatly on the decrease, and
must continue to decrease rapidly both here, and in
every part of the nation, from two principal causes :
first the hedge schools, where English alone is
taught, and secondly the necessity imposed upon the
country people of speaking English in all their traf-
ficking ; they are fond of bargaining both in buying
and selling, and as very few of the corn and pig
dealers and town shop-keepers can speak Irish, they
feel the want of English a serious inconvenience, and
they cannot bear to traffic through an interpreter.
Our paper circulation likewise makes it necessary for
them to read English, especially as they have suffered
so severely by the failures of country banks ; in
consequence of which, a country fellow will often
walk about a fair, with notes in his hand, asking every
person the amount and the bank, &c. and is scarcely
satisfied with the answers. Through this the English
language rapidly advances, for so anxious are
the people to speak it in the country, that the moun-
tain farmers who cannot speak English, and who
send their children to hedge schools, will scarcely al-
low them to speak Irish when at home. Irish will thus
soon fall into disuse in the south, and probably
also in most parts of Ireland, and it is desirable
that it should be disused among a people who think
themselves a sort of aboriginal race, and that the
majority of the landholders are invaders and in-

Language. truders, which added to their natural jealousy and hatred of the English, keeps up a spirit of discontent and suspicion of oppression, that make them ready instruments of insurrection in the hands of agitators, for those men instil into them the opinion that their connection with the English nation is the cause of all their sufferings, and the prejudices of their education induce a ready assent to this doctrine. Hence every thing that tends to destroy the distinction between the two people, as to their language, manners, dresses, or other similar points, would assist greatly in removing these invidious feelings.

Patron days.

No peculiar customs are observed here, except on the patron days, which are held on the 15th and 16th of August; formerly a patron was held at Killylahy, on the northern boundary of the parish, and another at Courtstown, but the Grace family removed them to Tullaroan, where they are still held, and sometimes continue for a week. On the days of their celebration there are some prayers and religious performances at the cross; and the remainder of the time is spent in drinking, peddling and dancing: fighting was formerly a regular part of the festivity, but the magistrates, to prevent any disorder, will, it is to be hoped, put a final stop to them hereafter. No traditions, excepting those already noticed in the fourth section, can be traced.

VII. *The Education and Employment of Children, &c.*

Education.

A great wish prevails amongst the people to have their children taught to read and write, principally

from the cause mentioned in the preceding section that they may learn to speak English, read bank notes, and keep their money accounts. There are four hedge Schools. schools in the parish, attended by about 100 children, four fifths of whom are boys; and just outside the parochial bounds, there are two very large schools, which are attended by many of the children of the parish, so that altogether there are about 150 children educated, about 80 of whom proceed as far as the double rule of three, and about 30 acquire a knowledge of book-keeping. About one-third of this number attends only in summer time, in consequence of the difficulty of going in bad weather. The average rates of tuition are, book-keeping 4s. 2d. a quarter; common arithmetic, 3s. 4d.; reading and writing, from 1s. 8d. to 2s. 6d.

The books used, are the common primer, and the universal spelling book. Books for reading in, are very School Books. few in number, and of that description well known to those who examine the books which pedlars and petty shopkeepers sell to the country people, such as the histories of robbers, &c. and particularly that pernicious little book, “the Articles of Limerick,” of which several thousand copies are sold every year though every part of the nation, which it is impossible for children to read, without imbibing a spirit of disloyalty to the government, and hatred of the present royal family and English connection.

The schoolhouses are like those of all other hedge schools, furnished with a few miserable desks and forms, but not sufficiently roomy for half the chil-

Schools. dren that attend. There is no endowed or parochial school.

The writer's acquaintance with the parish is too short, to allow him to form a decided opinion as to the improvement made by the general diffusion of education, but it cannot fail to produce considerable effects in various ways. The very collecting of the children together, and the exercise of their minds in learning even the little they do learn, tends to destroy the boorish and semi-barbarous character, which belongs to such a large class of the peasantry, and fits them for comprehending any plans of improvement that may be introduced among them; it also must bring into exercise whatever rationality, ability, and reflection may belong to their natural genius: indeed the intelligence discovered by boys, on speaking to them in those schools, compared with that of those who are wholly uneducated, indicates a very manifest improvement of mind, which when duly moulded by the circulation of proper books, and by the efforts making at present for the several improvements of the country, will afford an excellent field to work on. No library or book-room, no newspaper, review, or magazine, is to be met with here. Cox's infamous magazine indeed was sold here every year to some farmers, by fellows who hawked it about, but there has been no substitute. The writer has not been able to discover any manuscript or scarce historical treatise.

VIII. *State of Religious Establishment, Tythes, &c.*

Advowson. The advowson of the parish belongs to the Ormonde family, as forming part of the union of Callan, which latter was granted to James the fifth earl of Ormonde, by king Edward IV. in the 8th

year of his reign, 11th of April, 1496. This grant, *Advowson.* though made only for his life, has been ever since enjoyed by his descendants. Among the church lands conferred by queen Mary on Thomas earl of Ormonde, were those of the friary of Callan, and all its appurtenances * This earl's high character and great interest both with that sovereign and with her successor Elizabeth, must have secured to him any thing that was once possessed by his family; but Tullaroan or Grace's parish forming part of the cantred of Grace's country, owed no feudal service to the Butlers. The circumstance however, of the Graces continuing roman catholics, occasioned the specific reservation to the crown of this and other advowsons by the same clause in the "act of settlement" that restored to them a considerable part of their great

* In fact, the grant of an estate, bearing the characteristics of feudalism, is meant to convey with it all its incidents, of which few are more important to a family, particularly to one consisting of many members than church livings, which at once secure a certain and an honorable establishment for a son or sons. The grants, more especially those which flowed from the bounty of the Tudor family, enabled to be thus generous by their extensive spoliations of ecclesiastical property, must have operated very powerfully in this respect. In this way queen Elizabeth, by letters patent, dated at Greenwich 29th September, in the fifth year of her reign, granted "all the lands and possessions, as well spiritual as temporal, belonging to the late monastery of St. John the Baptist, near Nenagh, in the county of Tipperary, to sir Oliver Grace of the Leagan, in the county of Kilkenny, to be held by the sole tenure of homage and fealty." To this grant however, was annexed the condition that he should, "find sufficient curates to perform divine service" in the sixteen rectories described in this instrument. Accordingly it appears that among several successive presentations, those of the very valuable ones of Castletown, in Lower Ormonde, and of Roscrea, were made in 1615, by Oliver Grace of Ballylinch castle, grandson of the original grantee. In the disastrous confiscations of property suffered by this, a junior branch of the family, under Cromwell, the several estates belonging to it were swept away.

Impius hæc tam culta novalia miles habebat ?

Advowson. patrimony. An adherence to that religion, led also to the subsequent forfeiture of the remainder of their property. The advowsons thus vested in the crown were granted to the 1st duke of Ormonde, and Tullaroan was shortly afterwards united to Callan, by act of council.

Union. The union of Callan consists of the following parishes: Callan, rec. and vic. Tullaroan, rec. and vic. 30 townlands—Tullomaine, rec. and vic. 3 townlands—Conlaghmore, rec. and vic. 7 townlands—Killaloe, rec. and vic. 6 townlands—Ballycallan, rec. and vic. 10 townlands.

Churches. The churches of Callan and Ballycallan, are both in good repair; but of the others the ruins only remain, to point out the former site. For these, however, the reader is referred to the fourth section of this account.

Glebe There is no glebe or glebe house. The rector, the Rev. Dean Stephenson, resides in his own house at Callan. The tytheable articles are, wheat, potatoes, barley, oats, hay and sheep. The average valuation is, wheat 12s. potatoes 12s. oats 8s. barley 12s. hay 8s. per acre; sheep, 6d. a head. The farmers pass notes for the sum agreed upon, and pay whenever they are able, often owing more than a year's tythe. They never pay more than five-sixths of the valuation. The parochial records are regularly kept in Callan.

Chapel. A well built roman catholic chapel stands close to the village. It was erected about eighty years ago, but has been enlarged since, and a good wall and gateway added to it within the last fifteen years. The roman catholic clergyman lives in Freshford, five

miles from the chapel, nor is there any clergyman either protestant or roman catholic, resident in the parish, nor any place of worship, except this chapel.

There are but two protestant families, consisting of five individuals in the parish, one of whom settled there only last summer. The encrease of the roman catholic families may be estimated from the following returns. In the year 1731, there were 14 protestant families, now there are only two, these consisted of 64 individuals, now only of five. In 1731, there were 613 roman catholics, now there 2455. It also appears by the old leases, that in the purchases made from the "hollow sword blade company," it was stipulated, that the grounds should be let to protestants only; the causes of this large and encreasing disproportion are various, and such as it would be irrevelant to enter into here; but ignorance and neglect have contributed too much to it. This assertion can be vouched for from the fact, that on a superficial examination made by two persons, it was ascertained by them, that 140 persons went over to the church of Rome in this union, during the late incumbency: further research discovered many more; this could not have been the case, were proper attention paid to instruction, from the want of which the lower orders having nothing to oppose to the arguments addressed to them were easily induced to change their system of religious belief. Methodism has never been introduced into the parish, nor indeed sectarianism in any other form.

There is no parochial fund for any purpose. A tax had lately been laid on, for the first time, for the repair of Callan church.

IX: *Modes of Agriculture, Crops, &c.*

Agriculture.

The farmers in this parish have made very little improvement in agriculture, for it is not a wheat country, and potatoes and oats in succession are the principal crops that are reared. The crops differ very much in quality from the nature of the ground; for the vales not being ploughed, as they are excellent grass land, tillage begins at the foot of the mountain, and as it rises, meets a great variety of soil; wherever the soil is good, and that it is well manured, it yields as good crops of potatoes and oats, as many parts of the lowland country, but the wet soils not being well drained or manured, afford but indifferent produce. On the average, however, the crops are as good as are to be found in any of the hilly ground in this part of the country. Nothing can be worse than the system of farming, no pains are taken to drain or prepare the grounds, the farmers break up their fields, get about three crops of potatoes and four of oats, in succession, manuring badly after the oats, and then let them out generally without grass seeds, and at the end of seven or eight years, break them up again, sowing them continually with the same seed, which must necessarily degenerate every year, and allowing the stubble to lie unploughed all the winter. Tillage has crept to the top of the mountains within the last twenty years, and is advancing on them every year, so that it is probable in twenty years more, all the principal arable parts of the mountains will be in cultivation. The whole quantity of wheat raised last year was only 144 acres; some years ago there was not a third of

that quantity. The proportion of the other crops ^{Agriculture.} will be mentioned in the appendix.

The fences are well preserved, and the dykes and ^{Fences.} banks kept in good order ; the activity of mountain sheep obliges the farmers to this. Most of the ditches have been planted with white-thorn within the last fifteen years, which are beginning to make a very good appearance, so that in a few years more these hedges will greatly ornament the country.

The implements of tillage are the common Irish ^{Implements.} plough and harrow : but some of the more respectable farmers have introduced Scotch ploughs, though they are not suited to wet grounds, which are so stiff and adhesive, that the sod requires to be raised as much as possible, in order that the air may get through it, to dry and pulverise it. The Scotch plough, is thought to lay the sod too flat, while the Irish plough raises it, and breaks it more ; but the superiority of the Scotch plough in dry grounds is fully acknowledged, a dislike to it therefore in the former instance may have some foundation in reason. However when, in the advancing improvement of agriculture, those grounds are drained, and the application of lime and calcareous earth is better understood, pulverization will be effected by the Scotch as well as by the Irish plough, and by its universal use, labour will be diminished, and horses spared to the farmer.

The highest acreable rent for the best land within ^{Rent.} the last five years, has been from £3 to £3 10s. but the farmers complain of this rent, since the late de-

Agriculture.

pression, which is so great, that there are large tracts of mountain, which five years ago were set for £1 an acre, for which scarcely 5s. would now be given; the disparity in the grazing grounds can never be so great, and in this parish there are above 1600 acres of most excellent fattening land, of which nearly 200 acres last year fed a bullock an acre, and the rest nearly so; beside which there are at least 2000 acres of dairy ground, two acres of which support a cow all the year round; there are few farms in which there is not some good dairy ground, and it is by butter that the rent is chiefly made. All the farmers have cows, but it is very difficult to ascertain the quantity of their stock, for they refuse to give any assistance towards doing so, and seem to be quite opposed to the account being taken, fearing, perhaps, there may be some design in it, with respect to rent and taxation.

Labourers.

Before the late scarcity of provisions, the labourers had continual employment, but during the last two years, they have suffered much from the want of it; it has been severely felt by the labourers, who only had cabins by the road side without ground, and depended entirely on employment; their number was not great, and the farmers during the late scarcity were particularly liberal to them, giving them potatoes, and allowing them to eat at their tables; and the more opulent farmers boiled potatoes solely for them every day during a period of three months: in this respect there was a feeling shewn, which is highly honorable to their character.

All the large farmers have cottagers, who do their work, and are allowed the rent of their cabin and

garden, for a certain number of day's work ; some of them likewise keep labourers in their houses, who live with them like servants. Agriculture.

The manures are dung, lime, and calcareous earth ; the latter is not much used, although it is to be found in every part of the parish in tolerably large beds, and one district, as already stated, is entirely calcareous ; it is not of the best quality where it presents itself in the first digging, and the farmers have not sought for better, although it can be found, but it would answer in many grounds better than lime, as it lasts longer, and destroys less vegetable matter, which lime until it imbibes carbonic acid from the air is apt to do. Manures.

There has not been much soil burnt in the parish, although in many places the practice would answer extremely well, for there are large tracts of the mountain, on which there is a part composed of inert vegetable matter, the roots of heath and small furze, which from its adhesive quality, could not be so well decomposed by lime and marl, as by burning ; and as this kind of soil can afford to lose vegetable matter, burning will produce more soluble pabulum, than any other process ; while it injures silicious soils, and those where there is not much vegetable matter, in which lime and marl answer best. The farmers, not understanding this, often burn ground, merely because it is wet, and are obliged afterwards to dung it, to make it produce a succession of crops. Burning of land.

Mr. Robert St. George took a large tract of mountain about twenty years ago, in the northern range

Agriculture.

of the parish: a farmer who held it, paid but 5s. an acre for it, and was not able to make his rent; the soil was partly of inert vegetable matter, about six inches deep, on an argillaceous rock. Mr. St. George burnt it, sowed it with rape, had a most excellent crop, then limed it, got a crop of oats, and then set it for 30s. an acre, which rent it has been able to pay since, part of it tilled, and part of it in grass: here the argillaceous soil impregnated with carbonate of lime, attained a fertility, which completed the improvement, and rendered the farm valuable, as it is at present. There has been no experiment on the same soil to ascertain the comparative advantages of burning and liming; but where the inert vegetable matter is cold, stiff, and adhesive, the process of first burning, taking some kind of crop, and then liming or applying calcareous earth or marl, must succeed well, as it must bring into action all the soluble pabulum of the soil.

The manure used here is in general long dung, not through design, but from being principally made by straw spread in the cattle tracks, and farm yards; it is seldom heaped long enough to ferment much, or to decompose.

A great number of pigs are both reared and fattened in the parish. There are no fairs; the nearest are those of Kilkenny, Freshford, and Callan, all within five miles.

X. *Trade, Manufactures, Commerce, Navigation, &c.*

There is no manufacture, not even of coarse cloth or linen in the parish, nor any thing that could be introduced into this section.

XI. *Natural Curiosities, Remarkable Occurrences, &c.*

There are no natural curiosities peculiar to the parish; neither are there any remarkable occurrences of modern date. Such of those of more ancient times as appeared most worthy of observation, have been noticed in the fourth section.

List of Incumbents of Callan extracted from the

DECREE ROLLS.

9 of May, 1 Elizabeth (1559) David Rothe, Wal-^{Incom-}
ter Archer, and Thomas Grace, parson of Callan, ^{bents.}
were authorised to examine and give judgement on the variances concerning certain boundaries in dispute between Thomas earl of Ormond, and the corporation of the town of Callan.

7 of Nov. 3 Eliz. (1561) Nicholas Ley of Kilkenny, merchant, recovered from Thomas Grace, parson of Callan, all the tythes, corn and hay, of the towns of Rathelie-Grace, Adamstown, Monestown, and Brabastown, in the co. of Kilkenny, and every parcel thereof, according to an award made by Oliver Grace of the Legan, and for his costs 13s. 4d.

28 of Oct. 5 Eliz. (1563) James Grace, vicar of Callan, and his successors, recovered from sir Rorie O'Neill, chaplain, the castle of Rathville, as parcel of the vicarage of Tullo, and the rest of the matters referred to Oliver Grace of the Legan, and Thomas Grace, late vicar of Callan.

REGAL VISITATION BOOKS, 1615.

Ecclesia. de Tulroane, als. Tullaghrohan, membrum de Callan. Capella spectans ad eccliam de Callan, nullus curatus.

Incum-
bents

Rectoria de Callan, Johannes Butler, Rector. *va.* £200 —ster. t. pdr. residents. Church and Chancel well.

Vicaria de eodem, Patricius Fitzgerald, Vicar and Curat. *val* £20—ster. legens residents.

FIRST FRUIT BOOKS.

John Brookebanke, admis. 29 Martii. 1629, and induct. 30 Martii. *vic.* de Thomastowne, and Callan, in com. Kilkenny, £13 6s. 8d.

Wmus. Chamberlaine, institut. and admiss. 31 Oct. 1662, ad Rector. Ecclie Pochial. de Callan, £40.

Benjamin Parry, S. T. D. admiss. fuit 1^o die Maii. 1674, ad Rector. de Callan in Dioc. pred. and com. Kilk. £40.

Thomas Deane, cler. in artib. magr. admiss. fuit. 8^o die Feb. 1677, ad rector. de Callan, £40.

Thomas Deane, Cler. artib. magr. admiss. fuit 20^o die April, 1681, ad Vicariam de Callen in Com. Kilk. £13 6s. 8d. Ster.

Michael Cox, Clicus in artib. magr. admis. fuit 20 die Maii, an. dni 1724, ad Rect. de Callan Dioces. Ossor. p. Revdum in Christo, prem ac dnum Thomam pviden. dina Ossorien. epum.

Idem Michael admiss. fuit 24 die Junii, anno prd. ad Vicariam de Callan prd. p. die dnm Epum.

Laurence Brodrick, Julii 1745, R. and V. of Callen, £53 6s. 8d. Ster.

Hon. Wm. Knox, A. B. Instituted 29 April, 1787, R. and V. of Callan, Parishes of Tullaghrohan, alias Toleroan, Tolomain, Coolaghmore, Killaloe, Ballycallan, County Kilkenny.

Hon. Hamilton Cuffe, A. M. Instituted 4 Aug. 1789, Chapalrier, Chantries or Cantuaries of the Holy and Undivided Trinity St. Catherine, Callan.

John Wetham, A. M. Instituted 5 Jan. 1795, Union of Callan, R. and V. of same, County Kilkenny, R. £40, V. £13 6s. 8d.

George Stevenson, Instituted 1 Oct. 1796, R. of Callan, £40, V. same.

XII. *Suggestions for Improvement, and Means for meliorating the Condition of the People.*

On this head much has been said in the Surveys of other parishes with respect to the efficacious influence of education in civilizing, and improving the condition of the lower order of the people, and the example of Scotland evinces its efficacy. An objection arises in the minds of many persons, to the education of the lower orders, in the present state of Ireland; it is said that it makes them politicians, &c. To such persons it may be answered, that the apprehended evil proceeds mostly from the want of a general system, and can only be counteracted by every man knowing how to read; for first, it is impossible to prevent many persons from learning to read, let the obstacles to education be what they may, and when only a few can, and those men probably village politicians, they will read to the rest of their neighbours every publication they can procure, and the contents of these will always find credit from men who through ignorance, think that whatever is in print must be true; and as they are incapable of reading any paper or publication which could counteract the inflammatory falsehoods that are too often circulated through the press, they must ever be the dupes and tools of such politicians, and by the excitement of such feelings be made the ready instruments of mischief. The writer has often known Cox's magazine to be read to a crowd of villagers on a Sunday evening, while the people swallowed down every word, and imbibed every principle, more

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deeply instilled by the comments of the reader, while it was lamentable to reflect that on their return home, they should have no book nor tract to take up, which might either counteract the feelings thus excited, or contradict the falsehoods thus propagated; or that even if they had such a work, they could not read it. Here then indeed "a little learning is a dangerous thing," and it cannot be prevented, the hedge schools will give it, whether the government or the public will or not; those schools are multiplying every day, and when there is such a desire for education, it would be the wisdom of government and the public to take it out of the hands of persons ill qualified to give it a proper direction, and to carry it on under some plan calculated to instil into children principles of moral and civil order, through proper masters and proper books.* Many such schools have been established by societies and individuals, but they do not extend to an hundredth part

* In illustration of these sentiments, the following extracts and corroborative statements are quoted from the first printed report or prospectus of the *cheap book society*.

"That national Education in this country, has of late been attended to with considerable zeal and diligence, is matter of as much notoriety as it is of congratulation to all true lovers of their country. The avidity amongst the lower orders of the people for mental improvement keeps full pace with the generous labours of their benefactors and instructors. The unthinking and the selfish, who would have obstructed the rays of knowledge from the cottages of the poor, are now obliged to be silent; whilst the labours of those who have sought to extend and communicate its useful light are about to be repaid, by witnessing a generation of instructed peasantry. Conceal it as we may from ourselves, it is an indisputable fact, that the progress of knowledge has now spread so far, and so widely in Ireland, that it cannot (to use the language of one of the Commissioners of Education, in his letter annexed to the 14th Report,) "be stopped, without destruction to those who attempt to arrest its course."

of the population, nor until they are so extended as to supersede in a great measure the hedge schools, can any effectual advantage be derived from them. Suggested
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The people will read and think ; and it can only be from a well directed collection of books, liberally distributed, that the happiness of the lower, and the security of the higher orders in Ireland, can be permanently established.

It is a common observation that to teach the lower orders of the people to read, may be the means of disseminating vice and immorality ; of injuring instead of benefiting the poor. Without entering at large into a defence against this assertion, it is quite enough to say, that the time has passed for making it : besides which, no rational man will venture to argue, that the abuse can ever become an argument against the use of any thing, which when well directed and limited to its proper objects, is advantageous. That every thing valuable in life can be acquired in no other way than by knowledge, and that knowledge can best be afforded by giving to the people the power of reading, is a truth too long, and too well established to be now disputed.

As well therefore might it be urged, that to no situation or rank should this blessing be afforded ; for in every rank and in every situation, the same evils may follow the acquirement—perversion of principle and immorality will as certainly follow from the mis-use of the art of reading, amongst the great as amongst the poor—but were the lower classes to receive a portion of education fitted to their situation ; were the benefit offered to them not to rest in affording them merely the power of reading ; were the books employed for that purpose to consist of portions judiciously selected from history and from rational tales ; were treatises on horticulture, agriculture, the rearing and feeding of cattle, and planting—above all were the poor, in addition to their Bible, to be supplied with treatises on moral subjects of a nature, which whilst they were adapted to the improvement of the moral faculty amongst them, might incite to practical improvement, and dissuade from general profligacy ; as treatises in favour of cleanliness and domestic regularity, and descriptive of the misery of drunkenness and filth ; and were such works to be circulated at a cheap price throughout the schools and cottages of the poor, what improvement, what happiness should we not witness ?

The evenings of the poor would be usefully employed in their perusal. Education would then indeed become to the lower orders a means of rational and instructive amusement ; an assistant in their employments and a solace in their hours of relaxation. The possibility

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Until this is the case, it is in vain that we make local regulations, establish saving banks, form cheap-book, friendly and farming societies. These institutions can produce no permanent good, unless the minds of the people are prepared, and meliorated by education, then with decency of mind will follow a desire for decency of external appearance, both as to persons and houses, a law of reputation will follow, by which dishonesty, riot, idleness, drunkenness, and disorder would be discountenanced. To complete the work of civilization, there must be a more extensive circulation of the scriptures: this book has ever had the most powerful effect in enlarging and meliorating the mind of man: here precept comes with authority, not to be either gainsayed or resisted; the words are the words of God, and as

of education being an injury to the public, would thereby be effectually counteracted: their general improvement as certainly secured. There is no reason to doubt that at this moment, the majority of children in the poorer schools in Ireland, are taught to read, from books, the objects of which are vicious, or at least, unimproving.

Impressed with the truth of information afforded by persons conversant with the state of such schools, and of the lower classes in Ireland, a plan is conceived of publishing useful and instructive works, at a very cheap rate, for the use of the poorer schools and peasantry throughout the country.

The committee in pursuing this object, will not interfere with any establishment intended for the dissemination of religious knowledge; and they know of none, which supplies the glaring chasm in the system of education now pursued in Ireland, arising from the want of useful and instructive books for the poor. A Society is therefore established for that purpose—its object is, to provide for the poorer Schools in Ireland, and for the use of the lower classes in general, cheap editions of books, the object of which shall be *solely* to cultivate moral principles and useful knowledge.”

The founders and original committee of the *Cheap Book Society* were lords De Vescy, Lorton and Valentia, sir Richard Steele, H. Arabin, Samuel Bewley, Sheffield Grace, H. Hamilton, James Hall, R. Jebb, T. Lefroy, W. Monsell, James and Edward Scott, Cham. Walker, J. D. La Touche, C. Vesey, William and Thomas Parnell, G. Evans, and the secretary James Bessonnet, esqrs.

the peasant reads the history of him whom he calls his Redeemer, he finds that history so interspersed with the simplest parables and precepts of morality and truth, addressed to him in the tender language of him, whose name he bears, that it is impossible not to influence his mind, to introduce some reflection, to check the licentiousness and disorder that so sadly fills it, to soften its barbarism, and to prepare him for every advance in civilization. As to this its temporal effect on the condition of man, experience has fully proved it, and while the most pernicious books are largely circulated, it is time to circulate that book, which under the awful sanctions of God's law, declares, that "no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him, and that he who hateth his brother is a murderer." Men will read this book, when they will not read any moral treatise that can be put into their hands: it is a happy thing for the nation that its circulation is advancing so rapidly, and it will be yet found that the men who have actively engaged in this work, have been the best benefactors to their country.

Many other suggestions for improvement have been mentioned in the preceding Surveys, as the cultivation of bees, of buck wheat for fowl, and similar suggestions. The cultivation of flax, and the introduction of linen weaving for an established market, would relieve much of the poverty and distress arising from a superabundant population; the landlords should likewise search for culm and coal beds, open them, employ a regular miner, and work them with some simple machinery: this would greatly facilitate the burning of lime, give plenty of fuel to the country, employ many poor people, and fully repay the landlord and the tenant on whose lands they may be opened. At the colliery two miles beyond the

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parish, the farmers get all their culm for lime and fuel, and pay 1s. 8d. a kish for it, while it is to be found equally good in many parts nearer home, but the farmers now would conceal it, if it was discovered, lest the landlord should trespass on their grounds, and not recompense them; the landlord alone can carry on such a work properly, and he should do it in a manner that would encourage the farmer to assist him in the process.† It is a sad thing

† The tenant indeed is at his post, but where is the landlord to be found for the purposes of assistance and co-operation? He must be sought for in London, or Bath, or Harrowgate, or perhaps in those "piping times of peace" at Paris, or it may be at the foot of the capitol in Rome. His duties, in his own estimation at least, are to give receipts for his rents, and to issue directions to his agents at due intervals of time for the raising the rate of their perception. But he must bear to be told that there are other and very serious duties associated, as conditions to the holders of landed property, and that however his rights may and ought to be protected in a court of justice here, there is yet another tribunal before which he will be called for his audit and his account strictly scanned.

But let us look to the instance before us. In the days of the landlord's residence at Courtstown castle, several small aqueducts from the hills above collected and conveyed the waters of the springs and the floods from the rains into a succession of fish-ponds near the castle, whence they found an issue in a rivulet which, flowing by, received and bore them away. Neither bogs among the hills, nor swamps upon the lower grounds, were the subjects of complaint, though the evils of both were afterwards severely felt. There was at that time also a road paved in the centre to the width of about twenty feet, which indeed still extends from the castle in the direction of Kilkenny for the distance of two miles, and we cannot therefore say of this, that "*etiam periere ruinæ*," for it remains in a state of dilapidation. Its restoration would be attended with the most beneficial consequences to a circumference of neighbourhood, not easily definable at present, by giving the necessary facilities to the transport of fuel, without which, in our climate, life itself can with difficulty be sustained. During the residence of the Grace family at Courtstown, the whole of the fuel used by it, and its numerous dependants, was drawn from the property itself, whether in the shape of wood from the hills, or of coal raised in the same place. The disastrous effects of absenteeism, have been far too often exemplified, but in no place can a more melan-

to think how many natural advantages in this rich and fertile country are lost from the carelessness, neglect, and inattention of landlords to the local circumstances of their estates, and to the consequent jealousies, fears, ignorance, and indolence of tenants.

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There are no grounds in which irrigation could be practised with greater effect, as all the streams flow through calcareous beds, of course with the best impregnations for fertilizing, yet it is but little practised, and many meadows, where it would be most effectual, are manured with a top dressing, which is much wanted to enrich their potatoe grounds.

The rearing of green crops, and occasionally housing the cattle, would greatly assist the growth of grass, create manure, and enable trampled grounds to throw up their herbage; but landlords or their agents should direct and encourage all these improvements, and until they take up those things warmly, and instruct and assist their tenants in carrying them on, improvement will proceed very slowly among the farmers. The subject has been attended to by the gentlemen of this county. A committee has been formed for the purpose of carrying it into effect, and a market is to be established for 7-eight linen, of a certain number of yards in the piece, which it is hoped will soon afford employment for many poor families; the sowing, plucking, saving, steeping, hackling, &c. would employ many women and chil-

choly illustration of the fact be perhaps found than upon this property. The patriarchal connexion through many a century of the Grace family with the surrounding population, possessed a value, both moral and profitably beneficial, which it would be difficult, if at all possible, when once broken, to readjust, under such a very different order of things. At the same time, it remains, and must ever remain, the interest of every proprietor whether old or new, to keep up a closeness of communication with his tenantry, so mutually advantageous.

dren, and a weaver with a cabin and a garden, would find his family a blessing, instead of a burden; the struggle for small farms, on which so many are half starving in great wretchedness, would cease, and every labourer would endeavour to make his children weavers. In this county there are many advantages to encourage this, among others the linen factory, under the Incorporated Society, where forty boys are taught to weave, who being taken up by the gentlemen, and fixed in the country as weavers, as fast as their time expired, would soon introduce the manufactory through every part.

The local suggestions are, the establishment of lime kilns on the different estates, by the landlords, with a couple of men whose business it would be, to collect lime-stone from the beds of the streams, where it is in great plenty, and from every place where it may be found in masses, some of which in many places are so large, that they require blasting to remove; individual farmers cannot build kilns, nor have they time to collect those stones, they therefore procure lime from the neighbouring parishes, although there is plenty in appearance for their use, which lies neglected; it would pay the landlords ten-fold, and greatly facilitate the reclaiming of all the uncultivated land: they should likewise search for marl beds, open them for the use of the tenantry, and honestly recompense the farmer on whose lands they are found, for the trespass.

APPENDIX.

As there is no market in the parish, the prices of grain and provisions can only be struck by the Kilkenny market, which are as follows, taken from the paper of March 27, 1818.

Second flour... 60s. to 64s. per bag.	Pork, fresh.... 4d. to 5d. ditto.
Wheat..... 48s. to 52s. per bar.	Ditto, salt..... 6d. to 8d. ditto.
Barley..... 18s. to 22s. ditto.	Fresh butter.... 16d. to 18d. do.
Oats... .. 16s. to 20s. ditto.	Salt, ditto..... 12d. to 13d. do.
Beef... .. 6d. to 7d. per lb.	Potatoes..... 3d. to 4d. per st.
Mutton..... 6d. to 7d. ditto.	Coals..... 13d. to 14d. per cwt.

TABLE OF TOWNLANDS, &c. IN TULLAROAN.

Names.	Derivation.	Proprietors.	Acres.	Quality of Land and Rent.	Produce.
Gurtineagap, or Gort-na-ceap.	The field of stumps, (of trees probably) from <i>Gort</i> , a field, na- of, and <i>Ceap</i> , a block or stump.	J. Scutty, esq.	300	Argillaceous mountain, peaty and wetlish, with smut and culm; 3-4ths capable of being reclaimed, and 1-4th of being made arable; worth from 1l. 5s. to 10s. an acre.	28 acres potatoes, 23 ditto oats, 17 ditto meadow, The rest grazed,
Boggan,	The miry field, from <i>bog</i> , sof or miry, and <i>an</i> , soil.	H. Minchin, esq.	200	Argillaceous mountain, with some peat and wet ground; 4-5ths capable of being reclaim- ed, and 1-4th made arable, marks of old coal or culm pits from 1l. 5s. to 10s. per acre.	29 acres potatoes, 16 ditto, oats, 29 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed,
Ballybeagh,	Birch town, from <i>bally</i> , a town, townland, village or hamlet; and <i>beith</i> , a birch tree.	Sir J. Blunden,	480	About 3-4ths argillaceous mountain, some peat, tolerably dry, marks of culm, all re- claimable, and 3-4ths arable, the vale good grazing ground, from 2l. to 15s. per acre.	482 sheep, 42 acres potatoes, 39 ditto, oats, 29 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed,
Lisnateagh,	Stone fort, or, probably, house of the physicians; the 1st from <i>lios</i> , a fort, and <i>teac</i> , a stone (whence <i>crom-teach</i> , a druidical altar), the 2d from <i>liagh</i> , a physician.	— Flood, esq.	302	1-half moorish valley, 1-half argillaceous mountain, with calcareous beds, and marks of culm, all reclaimable, and 1-3d arable; from 1l. 5s. to 10s. an acre.	11 acre wheat, 15 ditto, potatoes, 22 ditto, oats, 15 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed,
Trenchards- town,	Obvious.	Wm. Cuffe, esq.	280	3-4ths argillaceous hill, dry and reclaim- able; 1-4th vale good grazing ground; 1-half arable, from 2l. to 1l. per acre.	131 sheep, 14 acres potatoes, 10 ditto, oats, 14 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed,
Brittasmore, or Brittas-more- na-grassa.	Great rocky waterfall, from <i>brit</i> , a stone; <i>as</i> , a cataract, or fal- of water; and <i>more</i> , great.	Sir J. Blunden,	443	5-8th argillaceous dry hill, 1-6th vale, good land, capable of much improvement; from 2l. to 1l. per acre.	41 sheep, 19 acres potatoes, 15 ditto, oats, 18 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed,
Leils,	Probably <i>lios</i> , a fort, as perhaps in no word in the Irish language does s follow t.	J. Ceale, esq.	288	Flatish argillaceous dry mountain, good pasture land, and capable of much improve- ment; from 1l. 10s. to 15s. per acre.	31 sheep, 22 acres wheat, 5 ditto, potatoes, 1 ditto, oats, 11 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed,

TABLE OF TOWNLANDS, &c. IN TULLAROAN, (CONTINUED.)

Names.	Derivation.	Proprietors.	Acres.	Quality of the Land and Rent.	Produce.
Knockinggrasa,	Grace's hill, from knock, a hill, and Grace a family name.	Ld. Normanton,	220	A dry argillaceous hill, with sloping ground, stratum of green rock, black slate, and calcareous beds, from 2l. to 15s. per acre.	105 sheep, 22 acres wheat, 1 ditto, potatoes, 4 ditto, oats, 12 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed,
Rathbilly Grace,	Fair fortress of Grace, from <i>rath</i> , a fortress, and <i>aillc</i> , fair or beautiful.	J. Loughnan, esq.	260	A flat, dry, argillaceous hill, with some green rock stratum, and calcareous weeds, excellent pasture; from 1l. 15s. to 15s. per acre.	85 sheep, 35 acres potatoes, 25 ditto, oats, 50 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed,
Adamstown,	Obvious.	J. Geale, esq.	220	A flat dry hill, with black slate subsoil, and occasionally green rocks, excellent mountain pasture, and arable, from 2l. to 1l. per acre.	120 sheep, 2 acres potatoes, 3 ditto, barley, 2 ditto, oats, 13 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed,
Monemidroe,	Red bog, from <i>moir</i> , a bog, and <i>roe</i> or <i>ruadh</i> , red.	J. Loughnan, esq.	70	Low moory ground, with ferruginous slate subsoil, and calcareous pits, all improveable, for pasture or tillage; 1l. 10s. per acre.	16 sheep, 2 acres barley, 14 ditto, potatoes, 16 ditto, oats, 14 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed,
Ballyroe Grace,	Red townland of Grace, from <i>bally</i> , as before & <i>roe</i> red.	R. Lalor, esq.	88	Excellent valley ground, argillaceous schistus subsoil, with calcareous beds, arable and pastureable, from 3l. to 1l. 10s. per acre.	13 a. 2 r. wheat, 15 a. 2 r. potatoes, 7 acres oats, 11 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed.
Ballycloneen,	The hamlet of the little plain, from <i>bally</i> , as before, and <i>cluain</i> , the diminutive of <i>cluain</i> , a plain.	Ditto,	78	Same quality.	124 sheep, 8 acres wheat, 13 ditto, potatoes, 17 ditto, oats, 13 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed,

TABLE OF TOWNLANDS, &c. IN TULLAROAN, (CONTINUED.)

Names.	Derivation.	Proprietors	A. res.	Quality of the Land and Rent.	Produce.
Rathnecan,	The fort of the water, from D. Scully, esq. <i>rath</i> , a fort, <i>na</i> of and <i>can</i> , a piece of water.	D. Scully, esq.	250	Moory argillaceous mountain, mostly peat. 30 sheep. certain pits open and working. 3-4ths improve-13 acres wheat. able, 1-5th arable, occasional stratum of 23 acres potatoes. siliceous micaceous schistus, from 1l. 5s. to 2s. 3d. oats. 10s. per acre. The rest grazed.	
Foyltailor,	The tailor's townland, <i>foil</i> , a family and <i>tailleur</i> , a tailor,	— — Finn, esq.	150	Dry argillaceous mountain, with calcareous 41 sheep. beds, and indications of culm, and coal, im- proveable, and fit for tillage or pasture; from 2l. to 1l. per acre.	2 acres wheat. from 1l ditto, potatoes. 1l ditto, oats. 10 ditto, madow. The rest grazed.
Countstown, or Ballynacourty,	The townland of the court or Sir W. Cuffe, castle.	Sir W. Cuffe,	240	3-4ths fine argillaceous mountain, all improve-22 acres wheat. able; 1-5th fertile alluvial valley, grass land, ca-12 ditto, potatoes. pable of irrigation, and rich meadow, this 12 a. 2 r. oats. formed the castle demesne; from 3l. to 1l. per 27 a. 2 r. meadow. The rest grazed.	
Kyle, or Kyleagnire,	The nearest wood, from <i>coil</i> , a Ditto. wood and <i>gar</i> , near.	Ditto.	150	Mountain, with siliceous and argillaceous 18 acres potatoes. subsoil, and calcareous beds, improveable for 20 ditto oats. pasturage or tillage; from 2l. to 1l. per acre. 12 ditto meadow. The rest grazed.	
Currage-scar- teen.	The shrubby plain, from <i>cur-</i> Ditto. <i>ragh</i> , a plain or course; and <i>scar-</i> <i>teen</i> , the diminutive of <i>scarit</i> , a thick tuft of trees or bushes.	Ditto.	114	A fine grass land vale, with some moor 6 a. 3 r. potatoes. from old woods, fit for pasture or tillage; 3 a. 2 r. oats. from 2l. 10s. to 1l. 10s. per acre. 11 sheep.	
Rahen,	The small fort, the diminutive Ditto. of <i>rath</i> , a fort.	Ditto.	172	1-3d improveable hill, arable and pastu-28 acres meadow. rable; 2-3ds rich valley grass land, capable 25 ditto, oats. of irrigation, subsoil, schistus with calcareous 44 ditto, meadow. beds; from 3l. to 1l. 10s. per acre. 1-half wetish hill, but very improveable, 65 sheep. The rest grazed.	
Oldtown, or Shanabally,	From <i>scan</i> , old, and <i>bally</i> , as before.	— — Finn, esq.	355	1-half wetish hill, but very improveable, 65 sheep. arable, and pasturable; 1-half vale, part wet, 15 acres potatoes. but improveable, part fine grass land, argilla-22 ditto, oats. cious soil, with calcareous beds; from 2l. to 23 ditto meadow. 1l. per acre. The rest grazed.	

TABLE OF TOWNLANDS, &c. IN TULLAROAN, (CONTINUED.)

Names.	Derivation.	Proprietors.	Acres.	Quality of Land and Rent.	Produce.
Briscolough,	From <i>brise</i> , brutie, tender, the remainder uncertain.	Sam. Waring, esq.	45	A good grass land vale, part of it moorish, but improvable for pasturage or tillage, argillaceous schistus subsoil, with calcareous beds; 2l. per acre.	5 acres wheat, 2 ditto, oats, 2 ditto, potatoes, 1 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed, 120 sheep.
Ballycuddy, or Ballyquidibh,	The townland of the meals or suppers, from <i>bally</i> , as before, and <i>cuid</i> , a supper, one of the old Irish exactions of <i>bonaght</i> , <i>cosh</i> , <i>cuddy</i> , &c.	J. Davis, esq.	320	2-3d dry improvable hill, part calcareous, part argillaceous subsoil; 1-3d vale, good grass arable land, marks of old coal and culm pits; from 2l. to 1l. per acre.	17 acres wheat, 8 ditto, barley. 26 ditto, potatoes, 15 ditto, oats, 25 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed, 139 sheep,
Caurstown, or Ballycaur,	The town of the champion or slaughter of battle, from <i>cathair</i> , a champion or <i>ca</i> , a battle, and <i>ur</i> , slaughter.	J. Geale, and J. Evans, esqrs.	656	A dry flat hill, argillaceous soil, arable and pasturable, with calcareous beds; from 1l. 10s. to 1l. per acre.	14 acres wheat, 15 ditto, barley, 44 ditto, potatoes, 32 ditto, oats, 41 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed, 15 sheep,
Bouncestown,	Uncertain.	J. Geale, esq.	250	2-3ds dry improvable argillaceous hill, fit for tillage or pasture; 1-3d vale good grass land, with calcareous beds; from 2l. to 1l. per acre.	12 acres potatoes, 15 ditto oats, 17 ditto meadow, 12 ditto, barley. The rest grazed, 32 sheep,
Huntown, or Ballyfiaguidhe,	From <i>bally</i> , as before, and <i>fiaguidhe</i> , a huntsman.	Marquis of Down- shire, and Ed. Crouyn, esq.	290	A fine grass vale rising to the hill, with a luminous soil, calcareous beds, marks of culm capable of irrigation; from 2l. 10s. to 1l. 10s. per acre.	13 acres potatoes, 16 ditto, oats, 23 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed,

TABLE OF TOWNLANDS, &c. IN TULLAROAN, (CONTINUED.)

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Derivation.</i>	<i>Proprietors.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Quality of the Land and Rent.</i>	<i>Produce.</i>
Lisballyfroo,	The fort of the townland of service, from <i>bios</i> , a fort, <i>bally</i> , as before, and <i>friot</i> , suit, service, or attendance.	Marquis of Downshire,	290	1-half hill dry and arable, ferruginous schistus subsoil, with calcareous beds, marks of culm; 1-half vale, fine grass land; from 2l. 10s. to 1l. per acre.	73 sheep, 29 acres potatoes, 23 ditto, oats, 15 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed, 153 sheep.
Mount Geale,	Obvious.	J. Geale, esq. and R. Hutchinson, esq.	120	A high vale of excellent pasture and tillage ground, ferruginous schistus subsoil, with calcareous beds; from 2l. to 1l. 10s. per acre.	11 acres wheat, 13 ditto, potatoes, 11 ditto, oats, 21 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed, 59 sheep.
Rameen, or Rathnean,	The celebrated fort, from <i>rath</i> , as before; and <i>nean</i> , famous, celebrated.	Marquis of Downshire,	200	A sloping hill coming into the vale, very fine grass land, argillaceous soil, with calcareous beds, arable and pasturable; from 2l. 10s. to 1l. 80s. per acre.	8 acres potatoes, 4 ditto, oats, 1 ditto, barley. 13 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed, 47 sheep.
Tullaroan, or Tullaghbrohan,	The red hill, or hill of the stream, from <i>tullach</i> , a hill, and <i>puadh</i> , red, or possibly <i>shruan</i> , a stream.	— — Finn, esq.	291	1-half fine dry hill argillaceous soil, arable and pasturable; 1-half fine aluminous vale mixed with calcareous sand, rich feeding ground; from 3l. to 1l. 10s. per acre.	12 acres wheat, 19 ditto, potatoes, 15 ditto, oats, 5 ditto, barley. 15 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed, 34 sheep.
Knocknamuck,	The swinehill, from <i>knock</i> , a hill, <i>na</i> , of, and <i>muic</i> , a pig.	R. St. George.	300	A naturally peaty wet mountain, but greatly improved by burning and liming, arable and pasturable, ferruginous argillite subsoil; from 1l. 10s. to 10s. per acre.	10 acres potatoes, 13 acres oats, 13 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed.
Ballytareny,	The neighbouring townland, from <i>bally</i> , as before, and <i>tarsna</i> , over against, or adjacent.	Sir J. Blunden.	110	Dry argillaceous hill, improvable and fit for pasture and tillage; from 1l. 10s. to 1l. per acre.	6 acres potatoes, 8 ditto, oats, 10 ditto, meadow, The rest grazed.

The accompanying appendix and table of townlands,* exhibit a distinct view of the present state of the parish in reference to the proprietors, the quantity, quality, value, and produce of the ground. It may be also worth noticing, that in 1816, tythe was paid for 1705 sheep, 144 acres of wheat, 456 of potatoes, 15 of barley, and 525 of meadow.

The number of acres and townlands admit an enumeration different from what has been here given, owing to several hundred acres being in a state of commonage and in dispute, and to some townlands being divided, and occasionally recognised by their modern denominations.

* Upon looking over this list of denominations, we are at once struck with the prevalence of the Celtic language, and the significance of the terms descriptive either of the feudal consequence of the proprietor or of the character of the place. In fact, the seat of an ancient baron, represented all the features of a royal court, though in course upon a lesser scale. Thus in the instance before us there is a townland of the physician, of the huntsman, of the tailor, and in short of every necessary dependant. The hawker had his portion (Ballysealgaive) allotted in another part of the cantred, but the swine-herd, a somewhat more useful though less magnificent adjunct, was nearer the castle. Of the lord upon whom was this dependency, the name of Grace, differently modified, reminds us, and admirably points out the close and reciprocally advantageous relationship of the superior and his vassals. Godwin in his life of Chaucer, a work redeeming many of his whims, has very happily and feelingly dwelt upon the affectionate nature of this connexion. Most of the other names were descriptive of the topography, as the field of stumps, the great rocky waterfall, the red bog, the hamlet of the little glen, &c. and these characteristics still justify the application, excepting where the industry of man, like death, has levelled all distinctions. Some more distant local evidences not less singularly explicit than curious, have also perpetuated the recollection of a family second only in rank, wealth and power, during the long period of five centuries, first, to the house of the earl marshal, and subsequently to that of Butler; but as certainly preceding the last in point of antiquity of settlement in this county, by two full centuries. Grace's castle, and the cantred of Grace's country, were thus long held by them before the 3d earl of Ormonde purchased the castle of Kilkenny in 1391, from Thomas Le de Spencer, who inherited it in right of blood from the earl marshal. But the Butlers after bearing upon their brows a ducal coronet, and riding triumphantly over many a political storm, still survive and flourish. Not so favorable have been the vicissitudes in their consequences befalling the family of Grace, whose name in the same county is now only remembered by the numerous traditional tales quoted, and affectionately told by the resident peasantry.

THE Author of the **STATISTICAL SURVEY** has endeavoured, in the return of each parish, to exhibit not only its actual state, but its progressive and prospective advancement in education, industry and wealth. In illustration of these endeavours he has carefully detailed the existing prices of labour, of provisions, of land, and of almost every description of property which the range of a parochial survey could embrace. He has consequently always been desirous, though hitherto unable, to impart minute and authentic information on the local expences of building; a subject closely connected with the internal improvement of the country, and strikingly indicative of its permanent prosperity. With a view of filling up this hiatus, he now avails himself of the following architectural sketch, which, though somewhat deviating from the parochial arrangement heretofore adopted, is nevertheless strictly statistical, and obviously contributes to the design of these volumes by the very circumstantial return accompanying it, of the price of this description of labour and materials, and of most of the expences commonly attendant on building.

The local and biographical details necessarily connected with the subject of this little sketch, may possibly afford some gratification also to the antiquary and topographer.

A

DESCRIPTIVE & ARCHITECTURAL

SKETCH

OF THE

GRACE-MAUSOLEUM,

IN THE

QUEEN'S COUNTY.

"Solatia superstitum."

A MELANCHOLY but impressive proof of a family's consecutive descent, is to be found in the record of its deaths; and as a deposit for these evidences, which admit of nothing ulterior, the Mausolea of all ages have been reared and consecrated by the sympathy of the survivors. What has thus universally been the practice, must as universally have been founded in our nature. If a mansion for the accommodation of the living be imperative, so is one for the reception of the dead called for, both by a sense of duty and a feeling of affection: and accordingly from the imposing monument dedicated to the memory of her lord by queen Artemisia, down to

the humble Morai of the Society-islands, such proofs of respect and recollection have never been wanting. Let it also not be forgotten, that while the foresight and necessities of communities demand the distribution of its members into orders, the exhibition of evidences, by which these civil relationships are implied or preserved, must act impressively upon the minds of the population among which they are placed.* Such are the testimonials afforded by the

* The parochial place of burial for the population around it through England and Wales, has not unfrequently operated as a cause both of originating and perpetuating evidence to prove a boundary line amidst the numerous disputes, which have so often arisen between contiguous parishes. "To perambulate the boundaries" is indeed a practice as salutary, as it is ancient; but it is not always observed, for in too many instances it has been permitted to fall into disuse. The circumstance however of connection in the melancholy act of burial, with a particular church, is so often repeated, as to fix upon the recent recollections of the existing generation, the full knowledge of the fact. And when we reflect that a generation is composed, not merely, of the more adult inhabitants who reside in the parish, but of those also

" ——— — qui nascuntur ab illis,"

we at once perceive that the chain of sequency, in this matter of memory, is strongly forged and tenaciously preserved. In truth, persons living exclusively, or nearly so, in great towns and cities, and trusting, for their power of recalling facts, to an appeal to letters, have but few opportunities of appreciating the prodigious exactness, and indeed identity of recollection preserved from generation to generation, among the rustic residents of a country parish. It would scarcely be too much to say, that a sort of scale might be formed, in this respect, by which the tradition would be found strong, pretty much in proportion to the seclusion of the place in which it is preserved. Men full of present cares, whether to tempt ambition or solicit fortune, are little disposed or well able to look back upon the time that has gone by, when they are every hour of the day with them, or of the days before them, required to concert a scheme or remove an obstacle. They are rowing "*adverso flumine*" upon the current of time, and the intermission of a single stroke, often renders nugatory the pro-

funereal monuments of every country, with the exception of some few perhaps, from whose contemplation for that very reason, whether as a consequence or a cause, both morals and humanity have equally revolted. It will be no matter of surprize therefore, that to the memory of the descendants springing from an ancient race brought into Ireland by the Anglo-Norman invasion, a tribute of recollection should have been thus paid.

With these feelings, upon the decay of a former and similar building, has the present Mausoleum of the Grace family been re-erected. It is situated in the village of Arles, the parochial union of Killabin, barony of Slievemarigue, and in the Queen's county.† Arles lies about 38 miles south-west of Dublin, on the road between Carlow and Gracefield, and is distant five miles from the former of these places and two from the latter. This little village‡ ought perhaps, more properly, to be deno-

gress effected by many a previous one. Not so the happy villager or rustic, whose course gently gliding through the vale of life, allows him long to survey the same objects, and easily to recall them to mind, if any enquiry should be made, or associations of recollections required.

† The Queen's county was formed out of the great territory of Leix, of which the O'Moores were lords, and some smaller districts, in 1557; but Upper Ossory belonging to the royal sept of Mac-gilly-patrick, since euphonised into Fitz-Patrick, was not annexed to this county till the year 1600. Slievemarigue or Slieumargie (or as called prior to the English invasion Hy Mairche) constituted a part of the county of Carlow in 1553, as appears by an inquisition of that date, taken to prove the king's title to the lands of Killishen, &c. situated in the lordship of Slieumargie and county of Carlow; and so continued till the statute 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, chap. 2. incorporated the Queen's county.

‡ A tile manufactory was established here in the year 1811, by an industrious individual of the name of Nowlan. The Arles flooring and

minated "Ardglass," which signifies a high hill, though tradition ascribes the origin of its name to

roofig tiles are considered to be of excellent materials, as well as of good workmanship. About one hundred thousand flower-pots and one thousand ridge-tiles, are the average weekly produce. They are sent to Dublin as the most certain market, but there is also a considerable demand for them in Carlow, Athy, Maryborough, Portarlinton, and among the resident gentry of this neighbourhood. The manufacture also of yarn and linen still survives, by a precarious existence, at Arles. It is said to have been formerly the primary object of village industry, and though now gradually declining, the produce is stated to occasionally exceed the home consumption. This excess is generally sold at the fairs, as there is no linen or yarn market in this county, and the only bleach-green in it, is that of Lalor's mill, near Maryborough. The new system of spinning with double wheels, on an improved principle, has this year been introduced with every prospect of success in the neighbourhood of Cloughrennan, Cooper-hill and Gracefield, by the respective proprietors of these three estates. The spinner employs both hands in using this wheel, which is different from the common kind in having two flyers and two bands, and in producing with the same labour or rather industry, a double quantity of yarn. In Ireland nearly an eighth of the population is considered to be without active employment, and destitute of any certain mode of subsistence. If an increased cultivation and manufacture of flax merely clothed and fed this wretched portion, a substantial benefit would undoubtedly be achieved. Where the advantageous results to the interest of the landed proprietor are thus certain and obvious, it is hoped that an appeal to his benevolent encouragement will not be useless: for such is the incredible poverty of the lower classes, that even the purchase of a wheel (half-a-guinea) is an insurmountable obstacle to their willing industry. If the poor cottager was furnished with this implement, and supplied with a few pottles of flax-seed on credit, till he commenced the manufacture of its produce, he could easily repay the utmost value of both, he could secure ample and certain employment for his family, he could make them useful members of society, and he could abandon the vicious and disgusting, but at present the unavoidable practice of mendicity. It appears from a late newspaper statement, that this country annually expends nearly a million sterling, in the importation of foreign coarse linens to make the finer linens of our northern counties an assorted and marketable

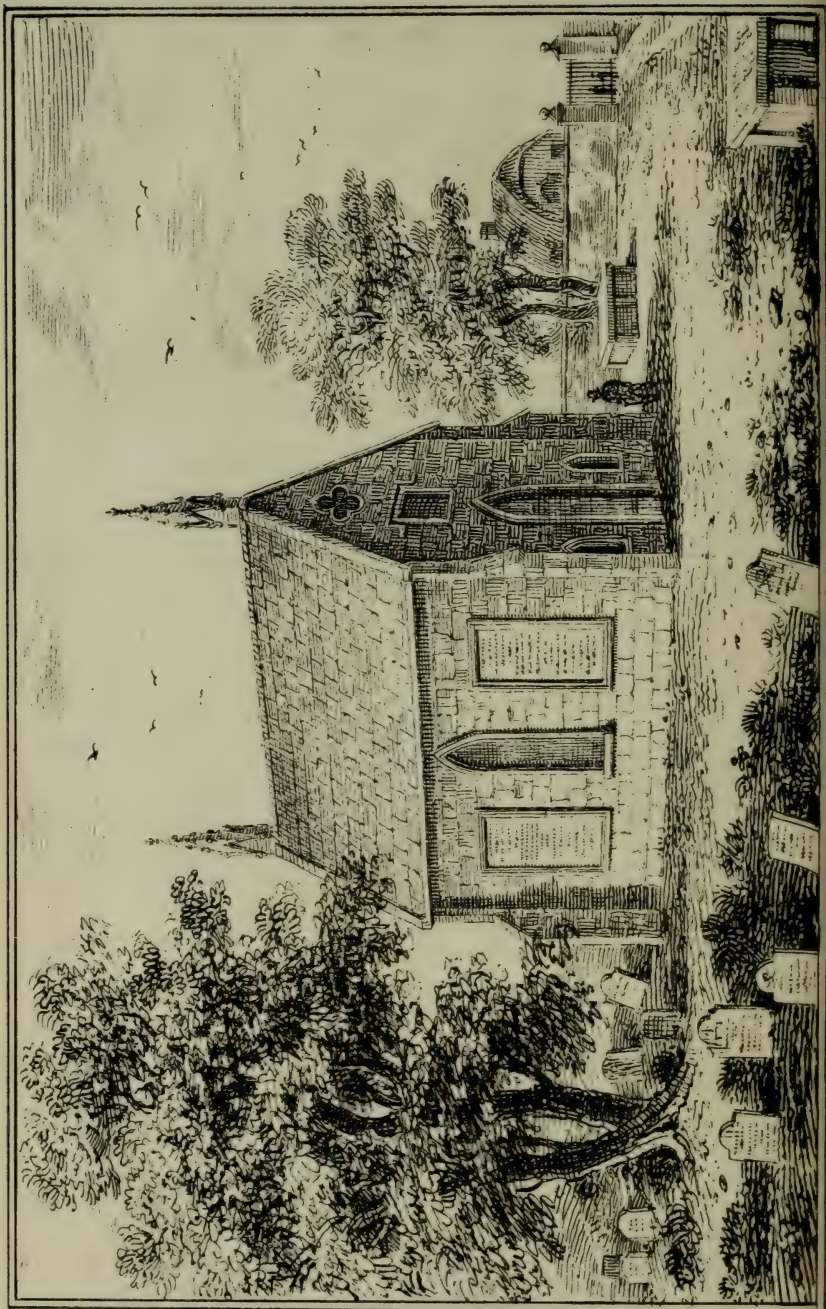
the city of Arles in France, where some of the Ballylinch branch of the Grace family are said to have

cargo for America. The article on which this great sum is thus unprofitably expended, might of all others be the most easily supplied, even from the crude and infant efforts to extend this valuable manufacture. Wherever flaxseed has been sown, the crop has been certain and abundant, and might, we will repeat, be made with a very trifling portion of individual exertion, the never-failing source of profitable industry to thousands of every age and sex. A pottle of foreign flaxseed, which is sufficient to sow two perches of ground, was sold this year from 1s. 3d. to 2s. 1d. while the same quantity of home-saved flaxseed, which is sufficient to sow one perch and a half of ground, was selling at from 4d. to 1s. 3d. Connected with the serious evil of an unemployed, starving, and overgrown population is the prevailing spirit of emigration, which, in this neighbourhood has in many instances overcome that instinctive attachment to soil, that

“ Love of land which gives them nought but life—”†

and has burst asunder these local fetters which sometimes bind even men of education to their parent earth, in defiance of the voice of reason and the positive advantages of a change. But these useless prejudices (often unsubdued by the most hopeless want and misery) have in the generality of cases alluded to, been abandoned by the industrious, the sober, and the comparatively wealthy. The extreme poverty indeed of the still humbler cottager, presents an insuperable obstruction to his movements. Vast numbers of this latter class would gladly bestow on the boundless extent of reclaimable land in the new world, that health and vigour which in the old is, both personally and politically, wholly unprofitable for want of employment; but men of the former description, who alone are able to emigrate, can never be felt as the superfluous population of any country, and whatever place they settle in, must be essentially benefited by their talents and industry. It is to be regretted that the vigilant agents of the United States, induce most of these to become their adopted countrymen though the original or unappropriated land there, can only be acquired by purchase from the state, while the British government grants gratuitously twenty-five acres in fee, to every settler in the North American provinces, or in the Cape of Good Hope. As the

† Byron's *Childe Harold*, canto 1, stanza 85.



retired from the religious and political feuds that distracted their native country. The position of the ground certainly countenances the former of these etymologies; but the ancient and established opinion of the country almost confirms the latter. Some curious biographical facts might also be adduced in illustration of that opinion. It is certain, however, that Arles is at present the only name borne by the village either in maps, or in description, whether written or verbal; and the confirmation of its accuracy or origin is not essential to our subject.

The Mausoleum is of an oblong form, 21 feet in length by 16 in breadth, with high gables terminating in richly ornamented pinnacles, which exceed 31 feet in height from the ground. With reference to its base, this superstructure may perhaps be considered disproportionably lofty, but its general appearance is nevertheless by no means inelegant. Four angular buttresses produce an effect of great apparent solidity, as well as of much positive beauty. The architecture is of that plainer order of religious

several degrees of official encouragement offered to emigration are not generally known in this country, it may perhaps be useful, as well as interesting, to accurately detail them, from a communication had last year, with the Colonial office. To every settler 25 acres: to every person who will take out and locate at least ten settlers, 1000 acres. A deposit of 10*l*. for every settler must in this latter case be made, which will be returned on his arrival at the colony. No fee of expense is incurred, and tonnage will be found for the conveyance of these settlers, but not victualled. To every lieutenant colonel who becomes a settler, 1200 acres. To every major 1000 acres. To captains, 800 acres. To subalterns, 500 acres. To serjeant majors or quarter masters, 300 acres. To serjeants, 200 acres. Navy officers of equivalent rank are entitled to receive similar grants.

gothic, prevalent in the south of England. In Britton's antiquities, the porch of Bishop Canning's church, in Wiltshire, is represented as somewhat similar in shape and character. A picturesque and striking appearance is happily combined with a sombre cast, strongly indicative of its solemn design. Several venerable ash trees of vast size, reputed to be coeval with the original structure, stretch towards it their withered arms.

" ————— all ragged shew

" Long lash'd by the rude winds. Some rift half down

" Their branchless trunks: others so thin at top,

" That scarce two crows can lodge in the same tree."

Blair's Grave.

The numerous mementos of mortality, the solitary passenger now and again on the church-yard path, and the noiseless hamlet, also contribute to give a suitable effect to the coup d'oeil. It occupies the site of the south wing of the old church of Arles, a spot on the highest point of an arm or promontory of the Slievemargue hills, which stretches into the spacious vale, and is distinguishable on the north-east from Rathcoole, in the county of Dublin, distant above 36 miles; while on the north, the east and the west sides, a broken succession of hill and mountain forms the remote boundaries of a surrounding amphitheatre. This southern wing,* commonly called

* The two following rudely executed inscriptions were formerly on stones or tablets, set in the old walls of Arles church. On the southern wing, "O. G. ædif. an. 1687."—on the northern wing, "built by Madam Scurlog, al. Hartpole, al. Walsb, 1687." This latter stone has been transferred to the walls of the new building, and it still marks the northern wing as it did formerly.

“ Grace’s chapel,” was erected in 1687 by Oliver Grace* of Shanganagh, (now Gracefield,) and his descendants afterwards retained exclusive possession of it, as well for their particular accommodation during divine service, as for their place of common interment.† In the year 1793, Arles church being then much decayed, and unequal in point of size to the increased population of the parish, a new and enlarged edifice was erected on another spot. The walls and materials of the old building were appropriated to that purpose, excepting only the south wing or Grace’s chapel, which was left standing

* Oliver Grace was chief remembrancer of the Exchequer of Ireland, (an office now held by the Marquis Wellesley), M. P. for the borough of Ballynakill in the Queen’s county, and a privy councillor to king James II. He was eldest son of William Grace of Ballylinch castle,‡ county of Kilkenny, and grandson of Gerald Grace of the same, who fell at the battle of Kilkenny in the army of his uncle the Lord Mountgarret, on which the commonwealth seized and confiscated the great patrimony of this branch of the Grace family. The top of his tomb, formerly inside Grace’s chapel, is one of the four exterior monuments placed on the east and west flanks of the Mausoleum.

† The cathedral of Kilkenny, and Grace’s chapel in Graces’s parish county of Kilkenny, were the usual places of sepulture of the Courtstown family. Sir Oliver Grace of Ballylinch and Legan castles in the county of Kilkenny, and also of Carney castle in the county of Tipperary, who was a younger son of the baron of Courtstown and founder of the Ballylinch branch, temp. Elizabeth, was interred in Jerpoint abbey, near the castle of Ballylinch. Jerpoint continued afterwards to be the burial place of his descendants, till Oliver, the eldest son of William Grace, the last of this line who was denominated of Ballylinch, settled in the Queen’s county, and erected the south wing of Arles church, as in the text.

‡ For the descent of this family from the barons of Courtstown, see Survey of Tuillaroan or Grace’s parish, page 546.

by itself. In the winter of 1795, the roof of this solitary remnant having fallen in, one of the tombstones of the Grace family was thereby broken, and another greatly injured. It now rapidly became a ruin. Most of the quoins, or dressed angular stones, were loosened from their places, thrown down and used as head stones for the adjoining graves. A large brass plate, finely executed at Rouen in France, with the well-known inscription in Latin elegiac verse by Sheffield Grace,* to the memory of

* The surname of the ancient earls of Mulgrave, afterwards dukes of Buckingham and Normanby. From the connection between the Grace and Sheffield families, which first took place about the middle of the seventeenth century, Sheffield Grace, (a younger son of the baron of Courtstown) was descended. He married the dowager viscountess Dillon, and died in 1684. Oliver Grace of Shanganagh (now Gracefield) had likewise a son, called Sheffield, who died unmarried in 1699. The Sheffield Grace mentioned in the text, was the 4th son of Michael Grace, of Gracefield, and died in 1746. Sheffield is also the name of the 2d son of the late Richard Grace of Southville, and appears on the inscription-tablet of this building. The family of Grace (now the sole representative of that of Sheffield) eventually inherited, as heir at law, all the property which remained in the counties of Middlesex, Sussex and York, of the undivided real estates of the last duke of Buckingham and Normanby, in the possession of which they were confirmed by the decree of the lord chancellor Northington. This inheritance, which they sold in the year 1759-60, to the duke of Bedford, Mr. Nesbit and others, descended to them through the very remote connection already mentioned, derived from Magdalen Sheffield, sister of the 2d earl of Mulgrave. It is somewhat remarkable, that though considerably more than a century intervened between that lady's birth, and the utter extinction of her name in the male line on the death of duke Edmund in 1735, no daughter or younger son of her noble house was ever married; no descent can therefore be adduced, or blood connection claimed with the family of Sheffield, during or within the last two hundred years, excepting through that of Grace. Nearly the whole of the ancient nobility of the kingdom were indeed one way or other allied to the last duke, and, through some of these alliances, very many of them were lineally descended from his im-

his wife Frances Bagot of Castle Bagot, who died in 1742, was wrenched from the marble, in which it was set, and carried away.* The occurrences of these accidents, and the probable prostration at any moment of the tottering high walls, evinced the necessity of something being done to preserve the remaining monuments of the family from impending destruction.

mediate family; but as these descents were derived from periods and degrees more remote than that already mentioned through Magdalen Sheffield, they can confer no right to quarter the Sheffield arms, or form any ground to the claim of being the representative of the Sheffield name. The voluminous MS. law pleadings are still extant in the possession of the Grace family respecting the disputed Sheffield estates, between the claimants by inheritance and by will, as well as the decree of chancery in favour of the former. Evidence so very notorious and unanswerable, as what protracted proceedings on important legal questions invariably furnish, and corroborated also by every document on the subject in the college of arms, and by Sir William Seagar's singularly minute, circumstantial, and copious genealogical details, in his MS. baronage, would totally annihilate, it might be presumed, the idea of such fictitious claims, as soon as conceived, and not leave even a shadow of pretext for controversy. But the contemptible, clumsy and laughable attempts at imposition, the false statements and palpable fabrications, which have been furnished more than once to the respectable and ingenious editor of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, and which he, from being unconscious of their utter want of truth, very injudiciously permitted to appear among his more authentic, valuable, and highly interesting communications, are offered as the apology and the motive for introducing the foregoing exposition of a few stubborn facts, with the remarks and conclusions naturally arising from them.

* Francis Grose the antiquary, had fortunately previous to this event, transcribed several of these inscriptions, and the one alluded to, on the stolen brass plate, is now further preserved from oblivion in page 35, of the 2d vol. of his *Antiquities of Ireland*.

Mrs. Kavanagh of Gracefield,* Sir William Gracebart. and his brothers Sheffield Grace, Esq., and

* Alicia, the only child of the 2d Michael Grace of Gracefield, married in 1792 to Morgan, 3d son of Thos. Kavanagh, of Borris, in the county of Carlow. In 1817, she took possession of a new house, or rather lodge, situated near the old residence of her family. The design was furnished by Mr. Nash of London, and the work was executed by Mr. Robertson of Kilkenny. The charge for the former was 80l. British, and the contract for the latter was 2600l. exclusive of all the serviceable materials in the former mansion. When to this is added the erection of entrance lodges, garden walls, farm offices, and other buildings, 4000l. may be stated as the expense of the whole. Thus become a resident after an absence which commenced with her childhood, and with her father's death in 1785, Mrs. Kavanagh soon diffused many of those blessings which poverty and ignorance may derive from a possessor of property, and active benevolence. The gratuitous distribution of building timber soon improved the appearance and internal comfort of the farm-houses and cottages. Forest trees for forming hedge-rows, and flaxseed, and spinning wheels on an improved principle, which manufacture a double produce of yarn, have been likewise similarly disposed of. For encouraging the use of iron axletrees and substantial spoke-wheels, with which a horse can easily bear above half as much more loading, than what he can with the old Irish small block-wheels, large quantities of iron have been procured and distributed on credit at first cost. The superior neatness and industry of some farmers have been rewarded with the presents of iron field-gates, timber, &c., and their efforts at improvement have been promoted by occasional abatements of rent. A new system of agriculture has likewise been encouraged and assisted by the experience of a steward from Scotland. The tenants on this estate have been obliged by their new leases, to enclose their farms with white thorn or crab quicks, in addition to the usual dreary and comfortless fence of a deep ditch. They have also covenanted to plant good oak, ash, beech, or elm trees thereon, at the distance of 25 feet asunder, and to appropriate to an orchard any quantity of ground laid out for that purpose, not exceeding one acre. In less than ten years, the beautiful appearance of this hilly country, the evident prosperity of the farmer, and the increasing value of the estate in timber and fertility, will amply remunerate, as well as strikingly testify the care and expenditure of the present day. The intersecting roads also.

Captain Percy Grace, R. N.,* accordingly joined in rebuilding the old southern wing of Arles church, or Grace's chapel, from its foundation. The architec-

which in many places were impassable, and utterly useless, have been repaired and rendered permanently serviceable. Employment has been found for numbers of the poorer peasantry, and medicine, wine, food, clothes and money have been distributed with a judicious hand among the sick, the aged and the helpless. The number of public houses has been reduced, and while many people of suspicious or objectionable character have gone elsewhere, the settlement of strangers has been strictly prohibited. The chapel of ease at Wolf-hill, on this estate, has been substantially rebuilt and enlarged, and a school-house for teaching reading, writing and accounts, on the Lancasterian plan, will soon be permanently established. The expenditure of money, compared with these advantageous results, has been inconsiderable. To effectually realize the beneficent and enlightened views of a landed proprietor in Ireland, a discerning judgment, a persevering spirit of stern reform, and indefatigable personal activity, are and must be for many years the primary, the essential, and most indispensable requisites. It is thus that the condition of the people may be ameliorated. Their failings also may be thus corrected, and their evil habits subdued. With practical philanthropy and common sense, a much less portion of wealth than what the patriotic and noble minded proprietor of Holkam in Norfolk often disinterestedly expends in converting a dreary waste of sterile land, into cheerful fields of fruitful corn, would regenerate the susceptible disposition of thousands, create sources for them of prosperous industry, draw profit from the health and vigour they now so unprofitably possess, and render their habits and feelings subservient to national welfare.

* The three sons of the late Richard Grace of Southville, M. P. (whose father William was the third son of the first Michael Grace of Gracefield)..viz. 1st. Sir William Grace, who succeeded to the baronetage on the death of his cousin Sir Richard Gamon, M. P. for Winchester...2d. Sheffield Grace of Lincoln's Inn, who was formerly a student at Winchester college, and afterwards a gentleman commoner at St. Mary's-hall, Oxford...3d. Percy, whose professional conduct has been more than once honorably noticed in the gazetted despatches, is a captain in the royal navy, as mentioned in the text.

tural working plan of a design conceived by Mr. Sheffield Grace for the sepulchral edifice, destined to occupy its site, was furnished by Mr. Thomas Ring of Dublin; consisting internally of a lower vault formed by a semicircular arch for the repository of the dead; and of an upper chamber, formed by an high pointed gothic arch for the reception of funereal monuments. The external dimensions of this building are, 21 feet long, 16 wide, and 31 feet 2 inches high, viz: 12 feet 10 inches from the sill of the door to the projection of the eave-course; 11 feet 8 inches from thence to the top of the ridge-course, and 6 feet 8 inches of pinnacle. To this may be added 11 feet 6 inches height of wall, forming part of the sides of the lower vault and the foundation, which lie beneath the surface, so that the distance from the foundation to the top of the pinnacle is 42 feet 8 inches. A buttress of 16 inches breadth by 18 inches projection at base, champered off to 9 inches projection at top, springs from each of the four angles. On the north end, between two spike-holes in cut stone, stands a pointed arched entrance 8 feet 6 inches high, and 3 feet wide, embellished by a continued architrave, comprising several gothic mouldings in cut-stone.* This entrance leads by a descending flight of steps to the burial or lower vault, and over it an inscription tablet, with a semi-rectia moulding and crowned by a rich cut-stone label,† is placed, commemorative of

* The several parts or proportions of the mouldings of these gothic door frames are as follows, viz. Impost 8 inches. Fillet joining impost $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. Small toros $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch. Cavetta $2\frac{3}{4}$ inch. Large toros $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch. Back fillet $3\frac{3}{8}$ inch. Entire projection of toros 2 inches. Projection of back fillet from the face of the wall $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

† The several parts and proportions of these labels are, viz. Upper toros $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch. Fillet $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. Cavetta $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch. Plain fascia 4 inches. Entire projection $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

the time and founders of the building.* The north quatrefoil window of the upper chamber is situated above this tablet. On the east and west flanks, a high pointed gothic arched frame of cut-stone to a blank window 7 feet high and 2 feet wide, with mouldings similar to those already described at the

* The inscription on this tablet is as follows : —

ΟΥΚ ΑΦΑΝΗΣ ΓΕΝΕΗ ΚΡΑΣΣΟΙ ΤΗΔ' ΙΕΡΟΝ ΥΠΝΟΝ.
ΚΟΙΜΟΝΤΑΙ. ΘΝΗΣΚΕΙΝ ΜΗ ΔΕΤΕ ΤΟΥΣ ΑΓΑΘΟΥΣ.*

Hoc Sepulcrum †

Alicia Kavanagh filia Michaelis Grace de Gracefield arm.

Gulielmus Grace Baronettus,

* Latin translation of this Greek distich.

Hic Gracæorum sacra gens pace quiescent

Nobilis. Haud credas posse perire bonos.

The reader will find in Dalzell's *Analecta*, vol. 2, p. 324, the original distich ascribed to Callimachus, which furnishes a classical illustration of that beautiful figure so often used in scripture, of representing death by calling it sleep. A truly christian sentiment is here expressed in our assurance of a happy immortality beyond the grave, being so strong, that our natural decease is merely, in the beautiful language of Milton,

" ————— a death-like sleep,

" A gentle wafting to immortal life."—

Paradise Lost, B. 12.

A further, and very beautiful character of a quiet death is given in "The Birds of Scotland." A young woman, dying without a struggle, and retaining in death the lovely calm of her countenance, is likened to a lake, which in a still night, is arrested and bound up in a cold and solid expanse.

† Diogenes, when dying, was asked by his friends, in what way he would wish his corpse to be disposed of. "Throw it into the fields," was the reply made in perfect consonance with a life so brutally spent. Much superior, both in natural kindness and pious veneration,

entrance, stands in the centre; and on each side of these two blank windows a mural monument of black

Et fratres ejus,
 Sheffieldus, juris consultus,
 Percieus, Regiæ classis præfectus,
 Poni curaverunt
 A. D. M,DCCC,XVIII,
 Quo loco fuit olim australis ala ædis Arlesianæ
 Ab Oliverio Grace de Shanganagh, sive Gracefield, armig.
 Annos salutis M,DC,LXXXVII ædificata,
 Jamdiu vetustate collapsa,
 Una cum sepulcris familiæ Gracefieldianæ
 Ibi exstructis.
 Hic, ubi lapsa jacent gentis monumenta vetustæ,
 In dominosque ruunt busta caduca suos,
 Auspiciis faustis et spe meliore, sepulcrum
 Jam reficit Fratrum consociatus amor.
 Sit sacrum pietatis opus!—servetur et ipsis,
 Morte obita, proavis quam tribuere, quies.

S. G.

was the declaration of the Scythians, who, when taunted for retreating before an invading enemy, could answer, "Let them follow us to the tombs of our ancestors, and they will there find us prepared to repel them, or to die upon the spot where our forefathers repose." There is something inexpressibly touching in the farewell of Achilles to his fallen friend, when the fiery warrior melts into all the softness of sorrow, which the purest affection so cruelly wounded could excite. The gathering of the bones too into the golden vessel prepared for their reception, and their placement in the tent, under the decent covering of a linen vestment, all shew the masterly acquaintance of the poet with the human heart. In the mummies of the Egyptians, a testimony of the care with which the remains of their friends were preserved, has travelled down even to our own time; and in the ruins of Herculaneum and Pompeii, so wonderfully overwhelmed and shielded from external injury by the same terrible agent, the religious regard paid to the dead is on every side abundantly proved by tombs, urns, and lacrymatory vessels. All the Roman towns had places appointed for the burial of the deceased, which lay near the roads leading to the adjacent country. Thus we find among the ancient sepulchral inscriptions: "Tu qui via Flaminia transis, resta hæc relege," and

marble (formerly inside the old building,*) surrounded by architraves of cut stone.† The south end cor-

* These four exterior mural monuments contain the following inscriptions. § 1. On Oliver Grace of Shanganagh (now Gracefield) eldest son of William Grace of Ballylinch castle, co. Kilkenny, and founder of the south wing of Arles church, commonly called "Grace's chapel." His widow Elizabeth died on the 13th of June, 1730, having married Edmund Butler, 6th viscount Mountgarret.

Here lyes the body of Oliver Grace, late of Shanganagh, esq. who departed this life on the 8th day of June, 1708, and in the 47th year of his age.

‡ *Infra virtutes, sed supra conspice nomen;
Concordant blando nomine facta viri.
Integer atque pius, sponsæ sobolique benignus,
Candidus in cunctos, sponte remotus erat.*

† The several parts and proportions of these architraves are viz. full thickness 3½ inches. .bottom fillet ¼ inch. .semi-rectia moulding 2 inches. .top fillet ¼ inch.

there "the passing tribute of a sigh" was implored, with the perfectly appropriate call upon the sympathy of the passenger by the "Siste viator," an invitation transferred, with strange incongruity, to the walls of our churches. But the execration prayed for upon all who should violate the sanctity of the ancient tomb, has, in course, not been permitted to find a place within a christian temple or in its neighbourhood. The most profound Greek scholar of the age, thus expresses himself in a letter to the author on the subject of such maledictory inscriptions. "These curses are well enough over a heathen sepulchre—they are most improper and ridiculous in a christian building of any kind. Look into Fabrotti's inscriptions. There, in page 100-110, you will see heathenish and christian diræ. Fabrotti ridicules the christian—Heinsius censures them— I agree with Heinsius entirely." It is in course unnecessary to state that the scholar alluded to, is Dr. Parr. The author is also fortunately enabled to add the sentiments of Dr. Earret, vice-provost of Trinity College, Dublin,

§ For this note, see page 672.

‡ See page 675.

responds with the north, excepting that an armorial tablet,* with a semi-rectia moulding is placed over a

* The quarterings, crests, mottoes, &c. in bold alto relievo on this tablet, which is 3 feet square, are. 1st. gules, a lion rampant per

II. On Mary, wife of the 1st Michael Grace of Gracefield, and daughter of John Galway of Lota, co. Cork, and of Elizabeth, sister of John Meade, bart. the grandfather of the first earl of Clanwilliam. The letters of this epitaph were originally gilt.

Here
 Lyeth the body of
 Mrs. Mary Grace,
 Late wife of
 Michael Grace, Esq.
 She was
 Religious without ostentation,
 Pious without hypocrisy,
 Friendly without flattery;
 To the distressed
 A support,
 To the orphans, a mother:
 In her life attended with many blessings,
 Her death with many tears.

as expressed to himself by that very learned gentleman, who strictly, in this respect, coincides with the opinion as above delivered, and it is very pleasing to remark this agreement upon a point so honorable at once to the moral feelings and to the critical acumen of scholars so disciplined in the delicacies as well as the depths of literature, with all its opportunities of application. Mountfaucon has collected and preserved a very considerable number of examples, out of which the following may be given:

“ Læseris hunc tumulum si quisquis, in Tartara pergas,
 Atque expers tumuli, læseris hunc tumulum.”

“ Si quis hanc aram læserit, habeat genium iratum populi Romani et numina Divorum.”

“ Si quis huic loco manus intulerit, habeat dolorem, meum quem ego habui.”

similar gothic entrance to an ascending flight of steps to the monumental or upper chamber. A richly

fess argent and or..2d. gules, a saltire argent between twelve cross crosslets or, a mullet for difference..3d. or, a chief indented azure,

She was

Faithful to her husband,
Tender to her children,
Forgiving to her enemies.

O passenger! how soon thou shalt resemble
Her, in her mortal parts,
God knows!

Do thou labour to resemble her in that
Which is immortal.

She lived; she died; she ran the happy race;
She won the glorious prize—immortal peace.

She died

November the 26th, A.D. 1736, in the 55th year of her age.

In perfect accordance with the spirit of this wish, but in terms more becoming the character of christianity, are the two following lines, which conclude the foregoing inscription:

Sit sacrum pietatis opus: servetur et ipsis,
Morte obita, proavis quam tribuere, quies.

The practice of burying within our churches would seem to shew that the moderns wished to mark with superior respect the remains of their friends, if we did not at the same time perceive the scandalous state, whether of neglect or of actual abuse, to which, in too many instances, throughout this island, they have been exposed. With respect to the gross violation of our churchyards, by the turning in of swine, cattle, goats, &c. to the prostration or damage of the graves, the indecent profanation of a place consecrated to such purposes not only calls for the severest moral reprehension, but for the direct and powerful animadversion of the laws. The traveller who in passing through North Wales, is delighted with the pious care bestowed upon the graves, always free from weeds, and often bestrewed with flowers, must shrink with disgust and abhorrence from the sight and contemplation of our Golgothas on this side of the channel. Over the filthy

carved gothic pinnacle 6 feet 8 inches high terminates the north and south ends of a ridge course in

three escallop shells in bend counterchanged. .4th. argent, a chevron between three garbes gules. .crests 1st. on a wreath, a demi lion,

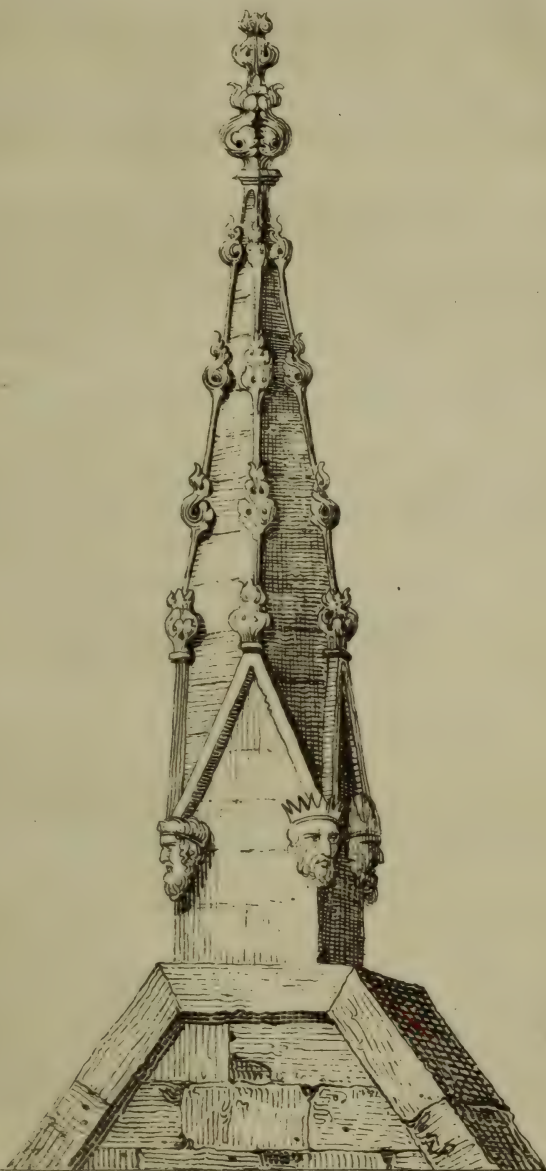
III. On Frances, 1st wife of John Grace, brother of Oliver of Shanganagh, and 3d son of William of Ballylinch castle, county of Kilkenny, who died without issue. By his wife Anne, the only child of John Grace of Thomastown, he had an only daughter Elizabeth Grace, who marrying Richard Gamon of Datchworthbury, county of Herts, was mother of sir Richard Gamon, bart. and of Anna Eliza, the late duchess of Chandos. Sir Richard Gamon, M. P. for Winchester, was created a baronet of England 11th of April, 1795, with remainder to Richard Grace, esq. M. P. and married lady Amelia Murray, daughter of John 3d duke of Athol: he had an only daughter Charlotte Amelia Gamon, and dying the 8th of April 1818, was succeeded in the baronetage by the present sir William Grace, the eldest son of the abovementioned Richard Grace, Esq. M. P.

pollution, which may be too frequently marked in these scenes of mortality, we may repeat the imprecations which an ancient inscription has been made to utter:

“Qui hic minxerit aut cacarit, habeat deos superos et inferos iratos.”

The decent obscenity of a learned language, as it has been called, may serve as an apology for the introduction of this maledictory denunciation.

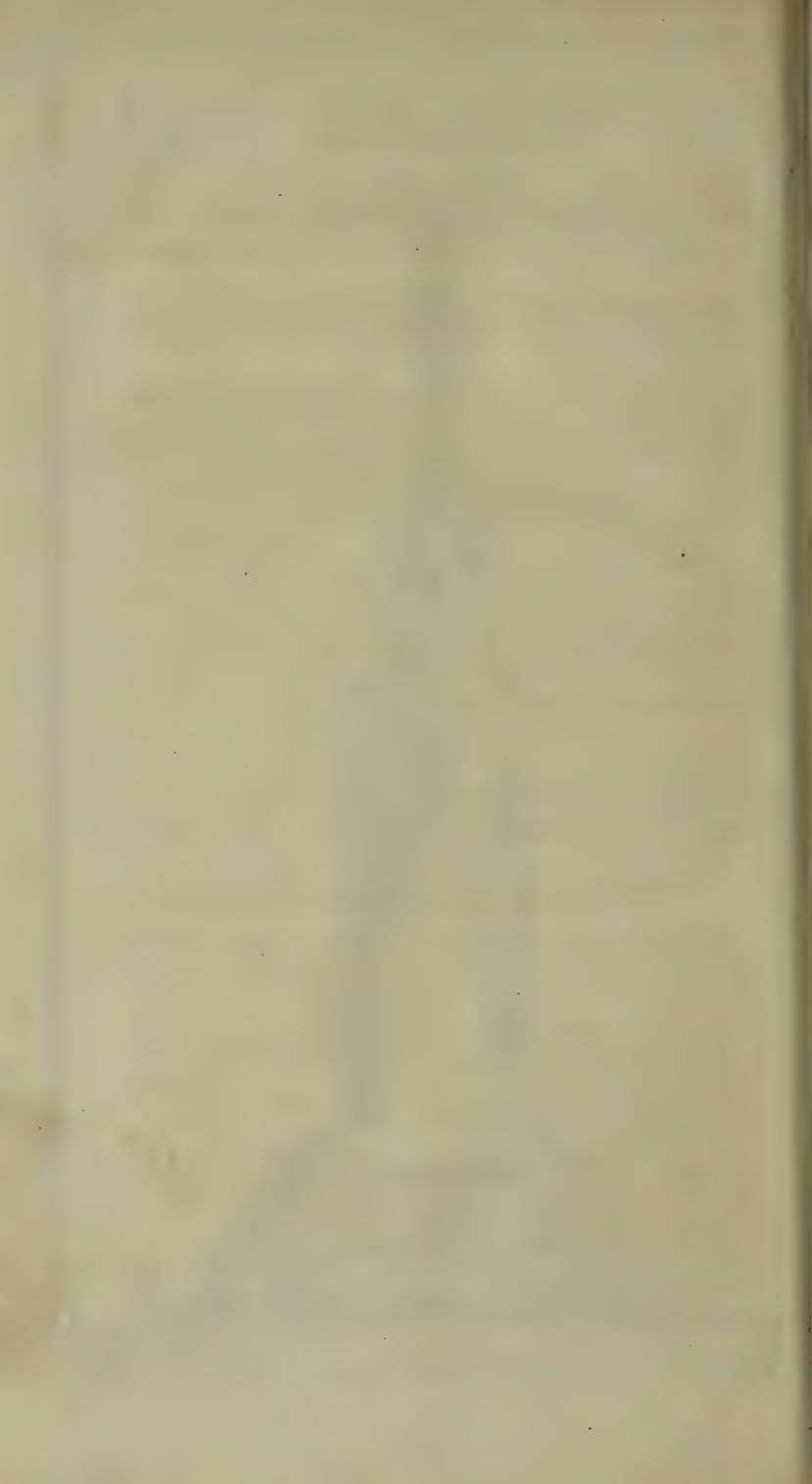
§ See p. 669. In England and Wales, no stone which covers a grave, but exhibits the name and age of the deceased with many circumstances of relationship and character, of the very highest interest to family history, as well as honourable to the cause of family feelings. No well ordered nature indeed, can disregard the memory of those who were once so tenderly beloved, and in the attention thus bestowed upon the departed, the survivor finds his truest consolation. Upon the tablet or the monument, the praise of those whose name it records, ceases to be flattery, or, if it be even so adjudged, it is a flattery which may be pardoned, as it is disinterested, and which may even be entitled to approbation, as it is connected with the best sympathies of



Lithographed by Wight and King

10 Terrace Haywater London

ONE OF THE PINNACLES AT LARGE OF THE GRACE MAUSOLEUM.



punched stone, 2 feet 3 inches wide: The base of these two pinnacles forms quadrangles of 1 foot 5

rampant, argent..2d. on a wreath, a boar's head and neck, erased, or: mottoes, sunk in alto relievo scrolls..over the crests, " en grace

our nature. In Hervey's Meditations, the reader may meet much matter for these reflections, and in Gray's Elegy, the feelings there expressed will find, to use the words of Johnson, " an echo in every bosom." In the great collection of ancient inscriptions by Gruter and Montfaucon, the reader will find many epitaphs of which the taste and feeling are as beautiful as they are pathetic. The following are selected as very touching, though the selection amidst so much similar and nearly equal excellence must be allowed to be difficult.

Here lies the body of Madam Frances Walker, widow of Colonel Thomas Dalzell, and late wife unto John Grace, esq. who departed this life the 26th day of July, in the five and thirtieth year of her age, and in the year of our Lord, 1709.

* Qui vagus obscurum fidei sectaris, ad urnam
Francescæ accedas; inspice, lumen habes:
In tumulo lucet cunctis, quo luxit in orbe
Lumen, et æthereæ lucet in arce Deo.

XAIPE·TYXH·ΨYXH·KAAH·TYXH·ΘYTATHP.

Vale, Tyche, pulcra anima, Tyche filia.

Fili, bene quiescas, mater tua rogat te ut me ad te recipias, vale!

D. M. Orestillæ Juliæ Dorcadi dulcissimæ, Julia Spurina et Statilia parentes infelicissimi. Vixit annos quatuordecim.

These are the effusions of the heart, and though they want the recommendation which more christian-like views would have bestowed, they must still be accepted with approbation. But in connection with these views, we may be allowed to state, the decisive advantage possessed by the modern epitaph, which, while it records the individual, gives one link more to the chain of descent. In family history indeed, whether the claims to property or title be considered, their utility in establishing the rights of the claimant is quite unquestionable; and

* For this note, see page 678.

inches, on each side of which is an angular pediment springing from four carved corbels representing Irish kings, mitred bishops, bearded sages, and armed warriors, and crowned at the top with finials. The arras of the spiral parts of the pinnacle stands central

affie". . . under the arms "concordant nomine facta". . . on the dexter side of the shield in alto relievo work is the letter S with the figures 18 under it; and on the sinister side the letter G with the figures 18 under it, viz. S. G. . . 1818. These letters are exact fac-similies of the capitals used in a copy at Gracefield library of the folio edition of Chaucer "imprinted at London by Jhon Kyngston dwellyng in Poules churchyarde, fa-8 1561."

IV. On the 2d Oliver Grace of Gracefield, eldest son and heir of the 1st Michael Grace of the same, and on his wife Mary, the daughter of John Dowell of Mantua house, county of Roscommon. John their second son inherited the estates of the Dowell family, and having married Mary, daughter and co-heiress of P. Hussey of Ardimore, was succeeded, in April 1811, by his only son Oliver Dowell Grace, of Mantua, who married 3d of September, 1819, Frances, eldest daughter of sir Richard Nagle, bart. of Jamestown, county of Westmeath.

"Here lies the body of Mrs. Mary Grace

Late wife of

Oliver Grace, Esq.

Who departed this life

The 14th day of November, 1765, in the 55th year of her age.

Also the body of

Oliver Grace of Gracefield, Esq.

Who departed this life

The 24th day of August, 1781, in the 77th year of his age.

May they rest in peace!

Amen.

in a recent instance, an ancient peerage of high renown in English story, has been recovered mainly by the chain of these very evidences. Every reader acquainted with the events which took place under the usurpation of the third Richard, must recollect the name of Hastings so cruelly murdered by the tyrant.

over each pediment. Twelve carved crockets ornament this part, which terminates in a large enriched finial. The roof† is formed by the high pointed

† See p. 699. Lapidary inscriptions are confessedly the most difficult species of composition, and so rarely has complete success crowned the attempt, that the author has seldom seen six lines together either in position or style which pleased his ear, or satisfied his judgment. The following remarks are merely such as a rapid review of the respective epitaphs suggest. “*Infra virtutes*,” viz. in the two last lines, for we must not understand it of the tomb within, though Ben Johnston writes

“ Underneath this tomb doth lie
As much virtue as could die, &c.”

And as we will subsequently read on the tomb of Frances Grace,

“ ————— ad urnam
Francescæ accedas; inspice, lumen habes, &c.”

The tomb cannot be said to inclose his or her virtues; we are taught by christianity to know, that the “*divinæ particula auræ*” soars far above the narrow precincts of a tomb. But as the mode of expression is sanctioned by authority, it may be thought hypercritical, perhaps, thus narrowly to scrutinise its introduction here. “*Concordant blando nomine facta.*” These words constitute the motto of the family with the exception of the epithet “*blando*,” and the writer of the epitaph has thus ingeniously contrived to empanel them in his composition. . . “*Sponte remotus erat.*” In the same spirit as

“ ————— summo
“ *Grata Deo, summum clausurat illa diem.*”

On Dame Mary Grace’s tomb in Jerpoint Abbey, who died in 1605, “*Integer atque pios, Sponsæ, &c.*” In these few words we are presented with the complete character of the noblest work of God—a good man. “He is just; he is religious; and to his spouse and offspring he is affectionate. He is kindly and liberal towards all, and with resignation he is removed from this life.” Of the kindness and liberality thus mentioned, the following instance may be adduced. Under the short gleam of prosperity enjoyed by king James’s party in Ireland, this gentleman though siding with that unfortunate monarch and hold-

† For this note, see page 677.

gothic arch of the upper chamber, and is covered with a strong flag-stone (brought from the Boley quarries on Sir William Grace's estate) nearly 3 inches thick, and so closely jointed, that the whole presents to the eye an even surface like one vast flag, with mock joints or lines, which inter-

ing the high office of chief remembrancer under him, threw open his house at Shanganagh, as a place of sure refuge to the helpless wives and children of the afflicted protestants. This service, so valuable at such a season, was gratefully acknowledged in the petition of the protestant gentry of the Queen's county to King William, that its beneficent author should be exempted from the penalties incurred by his attachment to the fortunes of the fallen prince. It is but just to King William's memory to add, that with the prayer of this petition, he not only immediately complied, but expressed his satisfaction at being enabled so to do, in favour of conduct so honorable and humane.

* See p. 673. This little epitaph, which is addressed to unbelievers, does not seem to have been written with much perspicuity. "Qui vagus obscurum fidei." The obscurity of faith constitutes, in fact, the very merit of its existence; and if after mentioning the authority of St. Paul, it may be permitted to quote an uninspired but most admirable author, his words may be adduced. "The merit of Faith," says Dr. Johnson, "is every thing, for the most licentious profligate would not take the most beautiful woman to his arms within the view of hell's flames." Faith is the substitute for both sight and tact, and in truth supersedes the necessity of either. "Quo luxit." Scilicet lumine; that is, as she had been so very much distinguished in life for her piety, so is the great example she exhibited, and the recollection of her virtues a sure beacon from the billows of unbelief to the tranquil port of religion. "In arce Deo." The accuracy of the latin would perhaps be more obvious if the preposition was expressed, cum deo, or simul cum deo. The two last lines of this epitaph remind us of the following distich by Plato on a beautiful girl whom he called Aster.

Ἀστὴρ πρὶν μὲν ἑλαμπες ἐν ζῶοισιν ἦεν,

Νυν δὲ θανὼν λαμπρὸς ἑσπερος ἐν Σιμενοῖς.

A morning star-fate Stella shone most bright,

But Stella now illuminates the night.

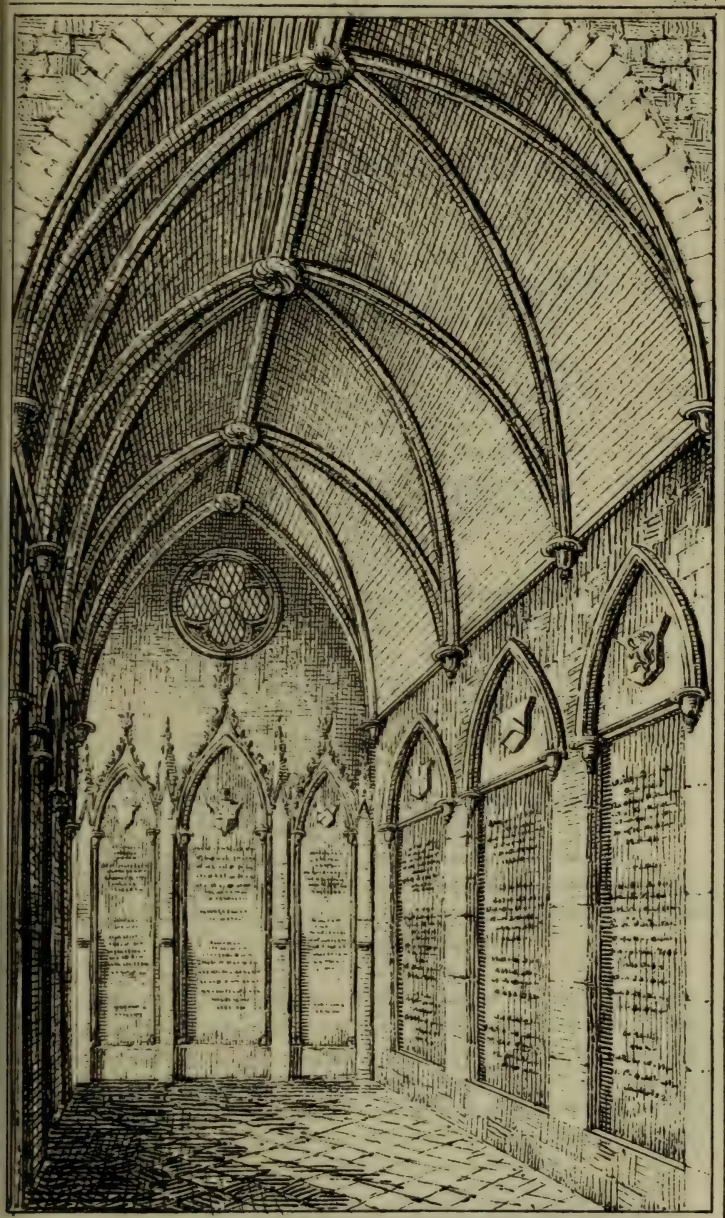
secting each other at right angles, form courses of 10 inches by 6. A groove is sunk in the eave course to receive the lower row of these ponderous flags, which are further secured and supported by strong iron cramps and holdfasts, let into the edge of each flag, between the joints. These unyielding ligaments are consequently wholly imperceptible. The stones forming the eave-course are 2 feet 8 inches deep by 8 inches thick, and project before the face of the wall 8 inches. Both eave-courses may almost be considered as a single stone, not only from the firm union with iron of the several side divisions, but also from the joining of the whole eastern eave-course to the western with two wrought iron chain bars 8 inches square which pass through the north and south gables. The walls batter on the outside and diminish on the inside from 2 feet 6 inches at the offset to 2 feet 3 inches in thickness at the eave-course. They are constructed in the best manner throughout, and are faced with punched lime-stone,

† See p. 815. St. Doulough's church near Swords, in the county of Dublin, suggested the idea of constructing a stone roof. This venerable edifice was founded prior to the invasion of the English under earl Strongbow, in the reign of Henry the 2d. and exhibits a style of architecture wholly different from the most ancient and religious structures now remaining in any of the other western countries of Europe. The church is remarkably small, and is covered with circular stone arches under a stone pediment roof. This roof may be considered as still perfect in all material respects; and any injury or defect to be discovered in it has been evidently occasioned, not by the ceaseless effort of time, but solely by the destructive hand of man. King's college chapel at Cambridge, probably the most beautiful building of the florid gothic style in the world, has also a stone internal roofing, of which several of the key stones are estimated at the enormous weight of five tons.

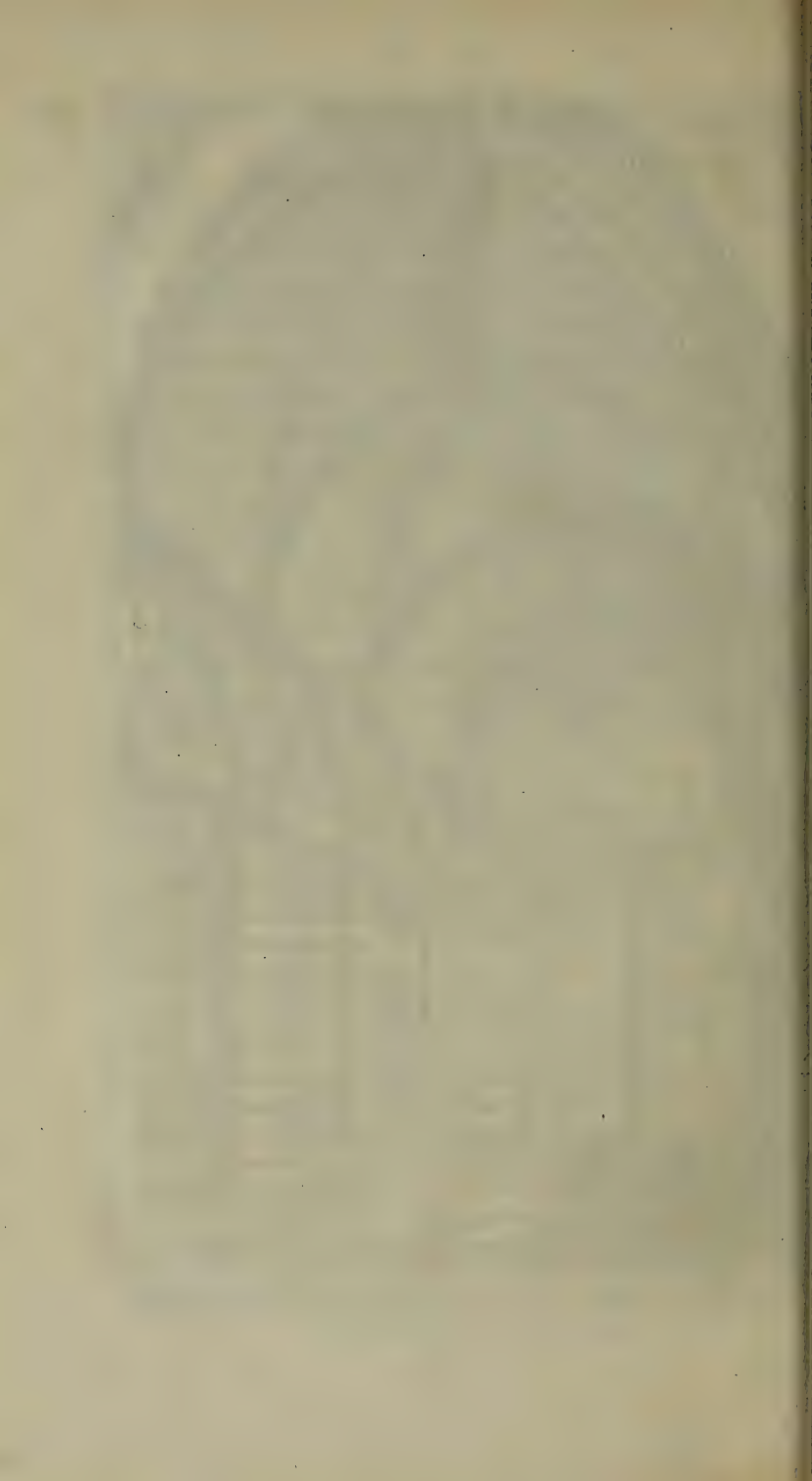
brought from Skehena quarry, formed into regular courses.

To these details of the exterior may be added a short description of the interior appearance of the monumental or upper chamber. This apartment, which, in reference to the site it occupies, might with some propriety be denominated the chapel, is finished in a chaste and beautiful manner, corresponding in style with the exterior of the edifice. Its dimensions are 15 feet 2 inches in length, 10 feet 8 inches in breadth, 8 feet high from the floor to the impost or springing, and 14 feet 9 inches to the vertex of the vaulted ceiling. The principal monument which occupies almost the entire of the north end exhibits a very elegant specimen of gothic architecture executed in Kilkenny marble. It consists of three compartments, each containing an inscriptional tablet, surrounded by a handsome moulded frame.* The centre compartment is crowned with

* The epitaphs to the memory of the late Michael Grace of Gracefield, and of his wife Mary Plunket of Dunsoghly castle, are cut on the centre tablet, while the two narrow side tablets receive brass plates on which other epitaphs are engraved. On the centre tablet are also the armorial bearings mentioned in the text. They are similar to those already described on the south exterior wall, excepting that the coat of Plunket (viz. sable, a bend argent and in chief a tower of the second) is borne on an escutcheon of pretence, and that the crest belonging to that family (viz. a horse passant argent) appears as the sinister crest. A well known English architect was of opinion that a corresponding monument could not be executed in London for less than £500. This was erected by Mr. Dowling of Kilkenny, whose demand, together with that for designs, and working plans (exclusive of the brass side tablets) amounted to the moderate sum of 50). The following are the epitaphs alluded to, and subjoined are other inscriptions, which also occupy mural monuments in this chamber.



Lithographed by W. J. King
10 Terrace, Bayswater.
INTERIOR VIEW OF THE MONUMENTAL CHAMBER
OF THE GRACE MAUSOLEUM.



a label richly decorated with crockets and terminated with a beautiful finial. On the inscriptional tablet

I. On the second Michael Grace of Gracefield, eldest son of the second Oliver of the same.

D. O. M.

Memoriæ sacrum

Michaelis Grace de Gracefield in hoc comitatu armigeri,
Oliverii Grace armigeri filii et hæredis;

Qui,

Ob eximium, quo in literis cum veteribus

Tum recentioribus, versatus est studium,

Mirum animi candorem,

Singularem morum suavitatem,

Illibatam pectoris integritatem,

Sinceram erga Deum pietatem

Exitit

Spectatissimus.

Non minus dilectus vixit quam desideratus decessit.

Natus est apud Gracefield A. D. MDCCXXXV,

Uxorem duxit A. D. MDCCLV,

Denatus est apud Eblanam die Aug. XXV,

Et in hoc sacrario

1^o. die Sep. A. D. MDCCLXXXV,

Sepultus est.

* Desine me miseris, Conjux, desiere querelis;

Fatorum leges nil revocare potest.

Non bona facta, fides, non connubialia jura. —

Certa manent omnes fata. — “ Memento mori.”

Amoris et desiderii perpetuum hoc monumentum amantissima filia
unica ac hæres posuit Alicia.

• The lines and sentiments of this tetrastic are simple and unaffected, but they are also extremely pretty and full of tenderness. Cicero somewhere calls this touching simplicity of style “ Quædam negligentia diligens.” — “ Desine me miseris, &c.” In composing this and the following tetrastic, which is in answer to it, the writer probably had in view the beautiful elegy of Propertius, one of the most pathetic compositions of all antiquity, beginning

“ Desine, Paule, meum lacrymis urgere sepulchrum
Panditur ad nullas janua nigra preces.”

beneath this label an armorial shield in bold alto relievo, bearing five coats with two crests and mottos, further harmonizes with the enriched character of this style of architecture. An ornamental buttress stands on each side of the large compartment, and separates it from the narrow compartments on the sides.— These buttresses are 10 inches in breadth, having a

Gabriel Altilius commences his elegy on the death of Sannazaro's mother, in a similiar way :

“ Desinite, ah ! lacrymis tam sanctos lædere manes ;
Vos vetat Elysiis illa recepta choris.”

At Clifton in Somersetshire, Sir William Draper has, with a pen still more vigorously wielded than his sword, inscribed upon a cenotaph, erected by him to the memory of his companions, who fell in the attack upon Manilla,

“ Parce triumphales lacrymis aspergere lauros.”

To this line, so round, so beautiful, we may assign the artifice of introducing so repeatedly the liquid letter R, as may be further illustrated by the line in Virgil's first Eclogue ;

“ Formosam resonare doces Amaryllida sylvas.”

A line, which Dr. Johnson, speaking “ ex cathedra,” as he was wont to do, pronounced the most beautiful ever written. He probably did not immediately recal the exquisite verse in the second book of the Iliad, where the bees are described as clustering about the flowers in the genial hours of May ;

Βοτρυδον δε πετονται επ' ανθεσιν ειχαρινοισιν.

As bees o'er flowers in spring in clusters fly.

The reader, it may be presumed sees, as he reads, the image thus presented. Lucian in his discourse on mourning (περὶ πένθους) makes a departed youth thus answer the frantic sorrows of his father : “ Unhappy mortal, why do you thus lament aloud ? why do you cause me so much pain ? cease to tear your hair, I am far more fortunate than yourself — why then do you miscall me and term me wretched ? “ Non bona facta, fides.”— As between man and man the importance, as well as the necessity of good works, need not be insisted upon, because without them, society becomes either a mere rope of sand, or a chain of mutual inflictions ; so in our relationships to a higher power,

moulded water table at about one half their height, and pannelled from thence upwards. The bottom of

they are valuable, only as they are evidences of our faith. That higher power wants not our assistance : but it exacts our gratitude, founded upon our belief. ‘*Connubialia jura.*’ When the sacredness of the connubial pledge, as well as the felicity arising from its observance, is considered, we see the strongest possible bond, by which rational beings are connected together, as from it, life and virtue in the offspring must be the consequence, where the obligations of those laws are duly inculcated. It is true, as is here said, ‘*Certa manent omnes fata,*’— ‘*Omnibus mors communis est,*’ but for this very and most decisive reason, are the laws guarding the matrimonial connection to be most strictly kept, as it is only by their observance in the first instance, that in the second, this goal, which has and can have no second, can be reached, and reached with safety. We may grieve : we may tremble, but thither we must go, for

“ *La Pauvre en sa cabane, on le chaume le couvre,
Est sujet a ses lois ;
Et la garde, qui veille aux barrieres du Louvre,
Ne defend pas nos Rois.*

In Quarles’ Emblems “ *pace Alexandri Pope*” there are many not merely beautiful, but exquisite passages. In his emblem of Time, represented by the usual figure with his accompaniment of a scythe, he is made also to hold a patent from heaven for the discharge of his office, and he thus speaks ;

“ *Each day, each hour
My patent gives me power*

To strike the peasant’s thatch, and shake the princely tower.’

This is not surely a mere translation from Horace,

*Pallida mors æquo pulsat pede pauperum tabernas
Regumque turres.*

or it is something better—perhaps a great deal better.

II. On Mary, wife of the 2d Michael Grace of Gracefield, and daughter of Nicholas Plunket of Dunsoghly-castle, county of Dublin, and of Daniel Dunne of Brittas castle in the Queen’s county :

D. O. M.

Memoriæ sacrum

Mariæ Grace filiæ et cohæredis Nicolai Plunket

4 R

each pannel is adorned with a handsome gothic flower, and the top with a lancet-head and cusps,*

De castello Dunsoghly in comitatu Eblanensi armigeri,
Et viduæ Michaelis Grace de Gracefield in hoc comitatu armigeri ;

Quæ

Erga egentes maxima charitate,

Amicos summa probitate,

Parentes singulari pietate,

Conjugem fidelissimo amore,

Deum insigni cultu,

Exstitit

Spectatissima.

Sic, fide integra et christianis virtutibus prædita,

Et, cælo jam matura, decessit.

Nata est apud castellum de Dunsoghly, A. D. M,DCC,XXXIV,

Nupta est, A. D. M,DCC,LXV,

Denata est apud Eblanam die Oct. IX,

Et in hoc sacrario

XIV°. die Oct. A. D. M,DCC,XCVII,

Sepulta est.

† Te sequor, O Conjux! etenim mors janua vitæ est ;

Te sequor, et mortis carpo libenter iter.

Pax, socialis amor, pietas quoque nostra fuere :

Sic regna ambobus sint patefacta Dei.

Amoris et desiderii perpetuum hoc monumentum, amantissima

Filia unica ac hæres posuit Alicia.

* The former of these terms is derived from the resemblance of one figure to the top of a surgeon's lancet, and the latter from the affinity of the other to the horns or points of the moon—they are frequently made use of by Dr. Milner, Francis Grose, and other writers on gothic architecture.

† The observations on the general character of the foregoing testrastic are applicable to this, which as an answer, is appropriate and most impressive. To lament over departed happiness is too often the lot of man in his domestic relationships, but here the memory of departed virtue is made, and deservedly made the base, upon which the hope of renewed bliss in a higher state of existence, is erected.—Then in its application also, as a reply, expressive of acquiescence in

forming a kind of trefoil figure. Pediments and pinnacles richly ornamented with crockets and finials

the request made by the former epitaph, it is not easy to imagine any thing more in taste, any thing more touchingly pathetic. In Pope we likewise find a very pretty epitaph on bishop Atterbury which is a dialogue between that distinguished divine and his daughter. "Te sequor, O Conjux!" Oh yes, beloved spouse, I cease to mourn thee, who art gone to the blissful regions of eternal life; but I will follow thee, if to follow thee be permitted. "Etenim mors janua vitæ." These words are in reply to the last line of the other epitaph, viz. "certa maneat omnes fata." And thus speaks Manilius;

"Solvite mortales animos, curamque levate,
Totque supervacua vitam deßere querelis;
Fata regunt orbem, certa stant omnia lege."

To the same purpose is the following distich, cited, I think, in Missou's travels.

"Mors mortis mortì mortem nisi morte dedisset,
Æternæ vitæ janua clausa foret."

And this by Pallados, from the Greek Anthologia.

Σῶμα πάθος ψυχῆς, ἄδης, μοῖρ', ἄχθος, ἀνάγκη,
Καὶ δεσµὸς κρᾶτερος, καὶ κόλασις βασάνων.
Ἀλλ' ὅταν ἐξήλθῃ τοῦ σώματος, ὥς ἀπὸ δεσµῶν
Τοῦ θανάτου, φεύγει ζῶων ἐπ' αἰάνατον.

The soul's dark prison is this mortal coil,
Its hell, its punishment, its painful toil,
Its galling chain, it's sharp tormenting goad,
Its pathless error, and its tiresome load:
But when the soul its earthly cell disdains,
Bursts from the body, as from ruthless chains,
Death's gloomy threshold pass'd and worldly strife,
It soars triumphant to eternal life.

There is more christianity here than we usually expect to find in compositions of heathenish origin. Christianity possesses "the sure and certain hope," but beyond all doubt every feeling and cultivated mind must, at all times and under all forms of religion, have felt this last, as it is the highest, of impulses. Again, how terse, how forcible, how conclusive is the following brief address recorded in Gruter's Greek funereal inscriptions.

finish the buttresses at top, and are nearly of the same description as those mentioned on the outside

ΝΙΚΗΦΟΡΕ ΧΡΗΣΤΕ ΧΑΙΡΕ.

Nicephore vir bone, gaude.

It is predicated that he is virtuous; the consequence is at hand. There is cause for joy. "Te sequor" being repeated in the second line breathes much of the pathetic. "Pax, socialis amor, pietas, &c." in reply to the third line of the tetrastic, viz. non bona facta, fides, &c. 'Tis true we have past a life of piety and connubial love; why then should we fear death? "mortem timere crudelius est quam mori." A life of piety and love must be to the happy regions of eternal bliss a passport which the sting of death itself can never invalidate. A more general or indeed a more particular commentary cannot perhaps be found for these two tetrastics than the two following short poems from the fifth book of the epistles of James de la Croix.

Prosopopœia filii defuncti ad patrem.

"Ob mea fata, pater, lacrymas ne funde perennes;
His mihi facta quies, crux mea, morsque fuit.
Corpus in hoc terræ gremio requiescit, olympum
Mens tenet, et trini gaudet amore dei, &c."

Prosopopœia patris ad filium defunctum.

"Quod lacrymis defuncti meis, tua funera; fili,
Prosequor et primi tristia damna tori,
Hoc Musæ meruere tuæ, pietasque, fidesque,
Atque inculpatæ simplicitatis amor, &c."

III. On Frances, wife of Sheffield Grace son of Michael Grace of Gracefield, and daughter of John Bagot of Castle-Bagot, co. Dublin.

‡ Nobilis ingenio, mitis, formosa, pudica,
Francesca, exiguo hic cespite tecta jaces;
Sed non tota :— Animus cæli loca læta petivit.
Solvere virtutis præmia terra nequit.
Quicquid amor, sincera fides, pietasque jubebant,
Sedula fecisti, Filia, Sponsa, Parens.
Non luxus tibi mollis amor, non cura decoris;
Unica cura inopes; et Deus unus amor.
Religio flevit, fletunt Virtusque, Pudorque,
Matribus exemplum, Virginibusque decus.
Sheffieldus flevit, pangens lacrymabile carmen,

of the building, except that moulded corbels occupy in the former the same place that the heads of kings,

Quod tibi perpetui pignus amoris erit.
 Æternum feret, lucis pertasus et auræ,
 Flere Deo vivam ni putet esse nefas.
 Concordes animas Christus revocabit in unum,
 Pax ubi sancta manet, nec dirimendus amor.

De Francesca Grace, alias Bagot, uxore Sheffieldi Grace
 obiit die 3 Maii Anno Domini 1742, ætatis suæ 32.

† See p. 684. The reader will easily perceive in these lines many touches of true pathos and affectionate recollections. Upon occasions, at once so lugubrious and so consolatory, the “solatia superstium,” the true taste of the composition is to effect its purpose, and I know no better way by which that purpose can be effected than by going directly to the heart. The paramount merit of the epitaph before us by Sheffield Grace on his wife, might, perhaps, be said to consist in its undoubted success with respect to this particular. It has nevertheless, as a whole, been pronounced “beautiful, highly classical and pathetic, and more evidently the real offspring of a feeling heart than the elegy by Ovid on his wife, which is far from exceeding it in tenderness of expression.” “Nobilis ingenio, mitis, &c.” It may not be here improper to cite some lines from the address of Ausonius to his wife Sabina, which seem to bear on the sentiments thus conveyed:

“Nobilis a proavis, et origine clara senatus,
 Moribus usque bonis clara Sabina magis.”

“Non licet obdunctum senio sopire dolorem,
 Semper crudescit nam mihi pœna recens.”

“Læta, pudica, gravis, genus inclyta et inclyta form,
 Et dolor atque decus conjugis Ausonii.”

“Sed non tota: animus cœli, &c.” The liberation of the spirit, under happy circumstances, from its confinement, must doubtless be attended with a joy and exultation, such as mere mortals cannot in an adequate degree at least, anticipate. We may hope indeed that piety may even in the present stage of our existence be permitted to tell, as it must enjoy, the consolations derived from a source at once so lofty and so pure. “Quicquid amor, &c.” This distich is re-

&c. do in the latter. This monument is 10 feet in height from the base of the buttress to the top of the

markably comprehensive, and it might perhaps have been more elegantly arranged if the poet had had the power of reversing the order of the amor, fides, pietas; thus pietas, fides, amor, to correspond with the order of filia, sponsa, parens, to which they refer, in the same manner as we find the epitaph on Matilda, wife of the emperor Henry IV. of Germany, daughter of king Henry I. of England and mother of king Henry II. also of England, which he might possibly have had in view.

Ortu magna, viro major, sed maxima prole,
Hic jacet Henrici filia, sponsa, parens.

He must here doubtless have meant to imply that love affords the disposition, upon which the sincerity of faith and of piety has founded the character of daughter, spouse, parent. In this short enumeration, he marks all the relationships of life which can belong to or be embellished by a virtuous female—contrasted with the possession of so much excellence is the absence of the opposite faulty qualities, as stated in the next line: neither sensual love, nor regard to personal charms excite in her any interest, viz.: “non luxus tibi mollis amor, &c.” The elegant antithesis in this and the three following lines is very remarkable, but particularly in the line

“Matribus exemplum, virginibusque decus.”

“Pangens lacrymabile carmen, &c.” In the like manner Martial in one of his epitaphs,

“Accipe, care puer, nostri monumenta doloris,
Qui tibi perpetuo carmine vivet honor.”

“Aeternum fleret, lucis, &c.” Somewhat similar is this distich of Sannazarius, on the tomb of a beloved and beautiful girl whom he calls Laura,

“Et lacrymas etiam superi tibi, Laura, dedissent,
Fas etiam superos si lacrymare foret.”

In the four concluding lines we are informed that “her afflicted partner would indeed weep for ever over her memory, but that he feels the sin of lamenting her, now alive to God. Souls so congenial, Christ will again unite, where peace, in all her sanctity, and love no more to be divided, inhabits.” Heaven is indeed the true, the only place in

finial, and 9 feet 4 inches in breadth, viz. the large centre compartment 5 feet, and each of those on the

which consolation for so irreparable a description of affliction upon the earth, can be looked for, or being looked for, be found.

IV. On Sheffield Grace, the 4th son of the 1st Michael Grace of Gracefield—This and the foregoing epitaph are engraved on two copper or brass plates, set in the same mural monument:

D. O. M.

Hic in pace requiescit

Guillelmi Sheffieldus Grace armiger, filius natus minimus Michaelis Grace de Gracefield, in hoc comitatu, armigeri, idemque nepos Oliverii Grace (primi Rememoratoris Scaccarii in Hibernia, regnante Jacobo II.) proneposque Guillelmi Grace de Ballylinch-castle in agro Kilkennensi, armigeri.

Homo, indole haud vulgari,
Probitate, prudentia, beneficentia,
Et morum suavitate,
Enituit;
Et ob literarum cultum,
(Ille etenim Musas feliciter excoluit)
Ingenii acumen,
Judicii soliditatem,
Inter spectatissimos suæ ætatis viros
Habitus est.

Uxorem duxit, Francescam, filiam Johannis Bagot de Castle-Bagot in comitatu Eblanensi, armigeri, ex qua unum progeniuit filium,
Raymundum Grace.

Natus est A. D. M,DCC,X,

Denatus Eblanæ V. die Sep. A. D. M,DCC,XLVI.

Et in hoc Sacrario sepultus est.

§ Qua lacrymas, hospes, stillantia marmora fundunt,

Et Musæ circum frigida busta gemunt,
Sheffieldus situs est, alto de sanguine Crassi,†
Sheffieldus tali stemmate dignus homo.

Moribus insignis, comis, dilectus amicis,
Inclytus officiis hospitioque fuit:

For this note, see next page.

sides 2 feet 2 inches. The eastern and western sides of the chamber are also divided into three compartments,

Doctus ; et, O, carus, Pieri blanda, tibi !
 Ergo jaces, Sheffielde, decus, flos, splendor Iernæ ?
 Ergo silent doctæ fila canora lyræ ?
 Certum ; etenim Francesca ciet tua : Christus in unum
 Concordes animas vos super astra vocat.
 Sparge rosas tumulo, nymphæ Libethrides ; et vos,
 Bervades, † O, vati lilia sparge tuo.
 Quiquis es, et lector, dic, molliter ossa quiescant,
 Cingant æternum hunc laurea sarta locum.

† Scilicet, celeberrimi Raymundi le Gros, qui in Hiberniam venit circiter annum M,C,LXX.

‡ Anglice, " the nymphs of the Barrow," (Bervæ) cujus aquæ campos prope Arles, cœmeterium gentis Græcorum, alluunt.

§ Although this epitaph on Sheffield Grace may not possess all the beauties which characterize his own composition upon his wife, it is yet by no means wanting in those touches of nature, which constitute the chief merit of this species of writing. " Qua lacrymas hospes, &c." The author seems here to have had in view a very pretty little epitaph written by Gray, on the death of Mrs. Clarke, beginning

Lo ! where the silent marble weeps, &c."

" Et Musæ circum, &c." This indeed exhibits a very interesting picture. The maids of Castalia, drooping in anguish, around the tomb of the bard they adored. " Alto de sanguine Crassi, &c." It is scarcely necessary to observe that the Crassus here mentioned was Raymond Crassus or le Gros, the very " thew and muscle" of the Anglo-Norman expedition into Ireland. It is very singular, and as delightfully impressive as it is singular, to remark the coincidence of character as exhibited in the adventurous warriors led by Strongbow, in the crusading chieftains of Tasso, and in the heroes who live for ever in the pages of Homer. Similar circumstances, if they do not form, will at least bring forward similar characters, though the converse of the proposition may perhaps be more true, when we affirm, that similar characters will produce similar circumstances. A frail fair one was, in the Greek and Norman expeditions, the torch which lighted the invaders to their prey ; and the Dervorghal of Dermot

each containing a mural monument surrounded by a moulded frame similar to those on the north end.

was the Helen of Paris. A quarrel about another lady of a better character occasioned the angry secession of Raymond from the camp of Strongbow; as Achilles had long before retired into his quarter, "eating his dear heart", as Homer tells us, because the fair Briseis had been taken from his arms by the "king of men." Lavinia in Virgil, blushing with equal modesty and beauty at being set up as the prize of the contest, roused Turnus to arms against the pious Æneas. In the "Jerusalem delivered," Rinaldo, ambitiously drawn by the Italian bard to resemble Achilles, is beguiled away into the enchanted and enchanting gardens of Armida, by the witcheries of their fascinating mistress. Thus also Raymond has here been styled the Achilles of our expedition; and we may find perhaps for the craftiness and selfishness of Ulysses a parallel in the character of Hervey of Mountmorres. In all these expeditions the warriors acted rather as allies engaged in a common cause, than as officers in subordination to a commander in chief. We may observe likewise that as the princes under Agamemnon were bound to undertake the war by the oath exacted from them as suitors of Helen by her father Tyndarus, so we see the companions of Strongbow connected in a great measure, by the bond of consanguinity. "*Carus, Pieri blanda, tibi.*" Many of his Latin and English poetical compositions are still extant. They prove him to have been not only a very general and polished scholar, but also a poet of no small taste and elegance. "*Francesca ciet tua: Christus in unum.*" This and the following line allude to the last distich of the preceding epitaph written by Sheffield Grace on his wife Frances, viz.

"*Concordes animas Christus revocabit in unum, &c.*"

"*Sparge rosas, &c.*" Thus Pontanns in his epitaph on Gabriel Altilius, the celebrated poet, and bishop of Bruxentum, now Policastro, which is cut on a superb marble monument in uncial letters;

"*Sparge tuos flores, florum sæcunda, Patulci,
Et tu sparge tuas, Antiniana, rosas.*"

Pontanus has been very much blamed for the too frequent introduction of nymphs, Muses, tears, &c. and particularly by Gaddius for this on Altilius. His words are "*extinctum (Altilium) ornavit carmine, quod pro titulo urnæ marmoræ inciduntur, sane iugenioso, et nobili, sed parum gravi, minusque congruo Pontifici sacro, cujus Pontifici-*

Over these monuments are gothic label mouldings, the kneelers of which are continued round the

alem honorem et decus attollere dum vult, elevare videtur levitate. Nomina nympharum, rosarum, &c. mollior et amœnitates ethnicas redolens Pontanus, ad satietatem suis in tumulis repetit, nulla fere distinctione personarum." "Bervades," the nymphs of the Barrow, a river which flows not far from the Grace Mausoleum at Arles, in which he is interred. This river is called Berva by modern Latin writers. "Dic molliter ossa quiescant." The ancients thought they could not give a deceased friend a better prayer than, "sit tibi terra levis," nor a greater curse to an enemy than to wish him the reverse.

V. On the 1st Michael Grace of Gracefield, eldest son and heir of Oliver, of Shanganagh, (now Gracefield) and on his wife Mary, the daughter of John Galway of Lota, county of Cork, and of Elizabeth, eldest daughter of William Meade of Ballintobber, who was son and heir of sir John Meade, by Catharine his wife, daughter of Dominick Sarsfield lord viscount Kilmallock. Sir John Meade of Ballintobber, the 4th baronet, was created in 1776, earl of Clanwilliam.

Michaeli Grace, viro moribus intaminato,
Charitate repleto, pietate eximio,
Qui vixit annos 78, ob. 1760.
Et Mariæ conjugii, marito fideli,
Natis exemplari, Deo devotissimæ,
Quæ vixit annos 55, ob. 1738.
Parentibus bene merentibus Oliverius
Filius natu maximus hoc marmor
Posuit.

VI. On William Grace, 3d son of the 1st Michael of Gracefield, and on his wife Mary, the daughter and heir of Richard Harford of Dublin, and also on their 2d son John Grace—engraved on a copper or brass plate, set in a mural monument.*

D. O. M.
Memoriæ dicatum

Guillelmi Grace, armigeri, tertii filii Michaelis Grace de Gracefield in hoc comitatu, armigeri, qui ex antiqua Gracæorum gente de Ballylinch castello in agro Kilkenniensi ortus fuit. Apud Londinum

* For this note see p. 692.

corbel capitals that support the vaulted ceiling and produce altogether a happy and characteristic ap-

XXIII^o. die Novembris A. D. M,DCC,LXXVII. obiit, atque in cœmeterio ecclesiæ de Sancto Ægidio in campis † sepultus est.

Memoriæ quoque dicatum

Mariæ Grace, filiæ natu maximæ et demum hæredis Ricardi Harford de Elbana, armigeri, viduæ ejusdem Gulielmi. Apud Londinum illaetiam X^o die Aprilis, A. D. M,DCC,XCIX obiit; atque in eodem loco quo requievit conjux ejus, terræ mandabatur.

Duo filii et una filia conjugium hocce beaverunt.

Ricardus Grace § filius natu maximus, et hæres, Joanam, honorabilis Johannis Evans de Aula-Bulgaden, in comitatu Limericensi, filiam neptemque Georgii baronis Carbery in matrimonium accepit, A. D. M,DCC,LXXXI. Johannes Grace, filius alter, marescallo comiti celeberrimo de Lacy, cognato suo, castrensis adjutor constitutus prima, pro Germaniæ imperatore belligerens, stipendia meruit; mox ipso imperatore Josepho secundo nominante, ejus satellitum cohorti præfectus est: deinde contra Turcas insigni virtute se gessit; et ad Belgradi obsidionem, principem de Anhalt-Coethen, tanquam ejus castrensis adjutor, comitatus est. Ibi XXXI^o. die Octobris, A. D. M,DCC,LXXXIX, ætatis suæ XXX^o. (uxore nunquam ducta) obiit, atque apud Semlin inhumatus est. Clara-Louisa Grace unica filia, Gulielmo Middleton de Vivario-Stockeld in comitatu Eboracensi, armigero nupsit, A. D. M,DCC,LXXXII.

* Quis jacet hic? nemo: tumulum sine corpore cernis;
Herois cineres terra remota tegit.

Hen! procul a patria Crassi sunt ossa locata

Magnanimi; at signant laurea sarta locum.

Laurea sarta locum signant, qua irrupit in hostes,

‡ Pannoniamque ferox sanguine tinxit humum.

† Hac tamen in terra (si fas, hac sponte jaceret)

Mnemosyne heroi surgere busta jubet:

† Anglice, "St. Giles' in the fields."

§ For this note see p. 692.

* For this note see p. 693.

‡ Anglice, "Hungary, Servia, &c."

† Scilicet in Hibernia.

pearance. The south end in some respects resembles the north end, but it is finished in a much plainer style, and the door-way, which forms a centre compartment is much lower than the side ones. A square mural monument occupies the space between the top of this door-way and the bottom of the quatrefoil window.

The ceiling has a very striking and pleasing effect. It is as original as it is simple and beautiful: for, although it only consists of a single vault, it assumes, from the unusual manner in which it is managed, all the appearance of a groined ceiling.

Quæ, licet externa longe tumultus in ora,
 Æternant memori carmine facta viri—
 Hinc, procul hinc, ipsi vitam posuere parentes,
 Quorum reliquias non sua terra tenet.
 Attamen extremas cum mors adduceret horas
 O, quoties patriæ cor cruciavit amor!
 O, quoties caros exoptavere penates!
 Aut saltem in cœlo visere posse suos.

* See p. 690. Mr. Gray of Dublin, an ingenious and skilful artist, is preparing to replace this, as well as the lost inscriptions of Sheffield Grace, on 3 brass plates; and the design for a mural monument to the memory of the late Richard Grace of Southville, has been fixed upon to occupy one of the vacant recesses.

§ See p. 691. He died at Southville on the 9th Jan. 1801, aged 40 years, and was interred at Arles, leaving three sons, viz. sir William Grace, bart. with Sheffield and Percy, all unmarried, and two daughters, viz. 1st. Jane, married to George F. Brooke, esq. youngest son of Francis Brooke, of Colebrooke, county of Fermanagh, esq. and 2d. Louisa Caroline. Mrs. Grace died in Dublin on the 24th of April, 1804, and was interred at Arles.

At the imposts, stand handsome corbel capitals, answering to the piers between the mural monuments,

* See p. 691. Differing from the two preceding inscriptions is the following, inasmuch as it tells the fact, that although the tomb may record the memory, it does not cover the remains of the deceased, whose names are impressed upon it. This it very fully accomplishes, as by it all the requisite circumstances are distinctly enumerated. Its literary merit may be illustrated by the comparison of the instances here selected for that purpose. "*Quis jacet hic? Nemo, &c.*" This abrupt beginning reminds us of an epitaph written by Johannes Secundus, on sir Thomas More, lord high chancellor of England, in the reign of king Henry VIII; in that however, the dialogue (*hospes et civis interlocutores*) is continued throughout :

Hosp.—"*Quis jacet heic truncus? cujus caput ense recisum est?*

Quæ natat in tetro sanguine canicies?

Civ.—"*Hic ille est Thomas Morus, &c.*"

In Gruter we find another epitaph of great antiquity, in dialogue, between a stranger and the interred.

Viator.—"*Partheni, have!*

Parth.—"*Bene valeas, qui me salutas cum Sosia filia mea.*"

"*Signant laurea,*" &c. It was anciently the custom to adorn the tombs of heroes and great men, who fell nobly in battle, with laurels; and laurels have often been planted on the very spot where they fell. In the epitaph on the death of Francis Bourbon, duke of Anguienne, the author laments his having fallen in a tournament at home in his own country, and not in a foreign land, during his campaign and glorious victory over the Spaniards.

"*Qui nuper gladios et fortem evaseris hostem,*

Hic, Francisce, jaces, nec sine ense jaces.

Heu! nec in hostili potuisti occumbere campo,

Nec fortis forti victus ab hoste cadis,

Sedibus at patriis, &c."

"*Pannoniamque, &c.*" The ancient name of Hungary, including Suabia, &c." "*Hæc tamen in terra, &c.*" meaning Ireland, or perhaps the very spot of this cenotaph which memory "*Mnemosyne*"

from which spring the moulded ribs 4 inches broad that run diagonally on the ceiling, and intersecting in the centre, are there connected with beautiful boss flowers entwined through the several members

has erected to his sacred manes. "Æternant memori, &c." alluding to the present inscription. "Non sua terra, &c." Scilicet externa, inasmuch as they were interred in London, as mentioned in the beginning of the epitaph above. "Attamen extremas, &c." Among all nations, not utterly brutish, there has ever prevailed a strong desire to revisit, (though only to die,) their native land, the spot of their birth. The latest thought of the expatriated Greek in Virgil, as he falls on the field of battle, is

"Et dulcis moriens reminiscitur Argos."

Edmund Waller, the poet and possessor of Beaconfield house, since held by Edmund Burke, when informed of his approaching fate by his physician, replied, "then like the stag, I will bend my way homewards, and die where I was roused." He did so, and in the church yard of his parish an obelisk of stone marks the place under which his remains repose. The four concluding lines of the epitaph tell the aspirations breathed on by the party dying in a foreign land, after the happiness of laying his bones among those of his ancestry. With the pathos and chastened eloquence of this apostrophe may be contrasted the emphatic strength, high imagery, and extreme simplicity of a short epitaph, on one of the ancient princes of Leix, which has hitherto been preserved in this neighbourhood solely by the care of tradition:

բարևա՛յ այն Օ'Պօնա.
 Եյ ընդ տա բարտա ա իւ զօ Լան ա՛ն Երևա՛յ,
 Այ ամայն ա՛ն Պիս օ՛ ռեամ շար բնչատրա՛ւ տա
 Ելայ՛ նա Երբար, յի՛ր իջօյ՛ւ այ Պօնա՛ն ան.

This language defies translation: the following is an humble attempt and "si licet magnis parva componere" is merely its shadow.

Henceforth, be thou, O monumental stone,
 Content, till Christ ascends the judgment throne,
 For, (him excepted, sprung of heavenly birth)
 The fairest blossom of the sons of earth,
 The brightest flower of O'More's high race
 Beneath reposes in this sacred place.

of each rib.—These boss flowers are 10 inches in diameter, and are different from each other; a circumstance which, to those accustomed to view ornaments of the Grecian or Roman orders, may perhaps seem strange; but it is to be recollected that gothic ornaments possess a wildness of form, which admirers of that style of architecture esteem beyond any thing to be seen in the most perfect works of Greece or Rome. The windows that light this funereal chapel are of a quatrefoil figure, 2 feet 7 inches in diameter, situated within 18 inches of the top of the ceiling, and immediately over the centre compartments of the north and south ends. A characteristic appearance is here happily combined with that durability which has constituted the paramount object of consideration in even the most trifling particulars of this structure. Panes of glass, less than three inches on the sides, and in a lozenge form, are set in lead work, which is enclosed by an iron frame accurately fitted to the cut-stone. Casual accidents, as well as the decay of time, are also guarded against by protecting the glass on the outside with a strong iron wire-work. The small dimensions of these windows “ casting a dim religious light,” occasions a gloominess that contributes, in no small degree,

The praise thus bestowed, must be allowed to be of the highest nature, and well accords with the aspiring character of this ancient and noble race, to whose chieftain it is applied. A tomb of curious workmanship, still standing in lord De Vesey's garden, at Abbeyleix, is reputed by tradition to have been constructed for that chieftain, whose brief memorial is thus expressed upon it :

“malachias.o.mora.lassie.princeps.requiescat.in.pace.
amen.m,cccc.lxxx.vi.”

to inspire those awful and devout sensations which are ever experienced on entering the gothic churches of our pious ancestors. Feelings of this nature must indeed be strongly impressed on those who here not only find themselves to be in the depository of the dead, but to be likewise among the remains of departed friends. In Dr. Milner's letter to Mr. Taylor on the subject of Gothic architecture, the emotions just noticed as peculiarly characteristic of that style, are happily marked. "It is," says he, "confessedly true that every man who has an eye to see and a soul to feel, on entering into York-minster and chapter house, or into King's college or Windsor chapels, or into the cathedrals of Lincoln or Winchester, is irresistibly struck with mingled impressions of awe and pleasure, which no other buildings are capable of producing; and, however he may approve of the Grecian architecture for the purposes of civil and social life, yet he instinctively experiences in the former a frame of mind that fits him for prayer and contemplation, which all the boasted regularity and magnificence of sir Christopher's and the nation's pride, I mean St. Paul's cathedral, cannot communicate, at least in the same degree." For the taste of invention and felicity of execution, displayed in the interior of the edifice, it is indebted to the talents of Mr. Byrne the architect, now deservedly rising into professional reputation.

It is scarcely necessary to observe that no wood work is used in any part of the building excepting the two doors which are of black oak, three inches thick, richly ornamented with gothic mouldings, and

closely studded with large water headed nails, accurately formed and finished with the file. Of these massive doors the locks are constructed upon a principle, not yet very generally known or adopted, with a double action of the spring, and with the key revolving upon a circular ward of solid copper an inch thick. Keys have been severally provided for the rector of the parish and for the founders. Skill, care and expence, acting upon materials very cautiously selected, may here be safely said to have been combined for the appropriate purpose of giving durability to a building, beyond which our earthly remains can require no other abode.

On Monday the 14th of September, 1818, the work was commenced,* and on Tuesday the 15th of the following December the exterior was completed; Mr. Sheffield Grace daily attending its progress. The design and execution were nearly simultaneous. Only two days preceding the commencement of the building, contracts were agreed to for quarrying stone, for supplying sand, lime, &c. and for the ornamental cut-stone frames of doors, windows, &c. It is rather remarkable that, during the above period, a single day of frost did not occur, and that the rain occasioned an interruption of only three days.

* Upon laying the foundation of the building, the various new coins, whether in copper or silver, were deposited in the four angular quoins. There is some thing very awful in this appeal to nameless persons, through nameless ages. Time in his march tramples incautiously over these testimonies, until he has effected his work of ruin, and then they may be again produced to the eye of garish day.

As connected with the subject, it may be mentioned that, in removing the foundations of the old building, the steps and side walls of a ruined vault were discovered, with a mouth or entrance from the church-yard. According to a popular tradition prevalent in the neighbourhood, this vault was constructed by Oliver Grace, the founder of the south wing of Arles church or Grace's chapel as above-mentioned, but the water annually rising and filling, it obliged the family, even previously to its being used, to abandon it altogether, and to inter the corpses above it on a higher level, inside the chapel walls. The Mausoleum occupying, as has been already observed, the site of Grace's chapel, now encloses these mortal remains.* They lie indeed mouldering, and

* Under the flagged flooring of the lower vault, the remains of the following individuals appear, among others in the family-registry, to have been interred, viz. Oliver Grace of Shanganagh (now Gracefield) the founder in 1687 of Graces' chapel, ob. 1705. His widow (Elizabeth Bryan of Bawnmore) having married with Edmund Butler, 6th lord viscount Mountgarret, died in London, and was interred (1736) in the parish church of St. Giles in the fields.

John Grace, the said Oliver's brother, and 3d son of William Grace of Ballylinch-castle, county of Kilkenny, Frances Walker this John's 1st wife, and widow of colonel Thomas Dalzell, ob. 1709. Anne Grace of Thomastown this John's 2d wife survived him, and died in England, leaving issue an only daughter Elizabeth Grace, married to Richard Gamon of Datchworthbury, by whom she had the late sir Richard Gamon, bart.

Michael Grace of Gracefield, the said Oliver's eldest son, ob. 1760. Mary Galway of Lota, this Michael's wife, ob. 1736.

Gerald and Raymond Grace, two of the said Oliver's younger sons, ob. infan. 1697.

Sheffield Grace, one of said Oliver's younger sons, ob. cœlebs, 1692.

William Grace, another of the said Oliver's younger sons, ob. cœlebs ante 1708.

John Grace, the said Oliver's second surviving son, ob. 1719. Susanna Carroll of Borris, this John's wife, ob. ante 1719.

decayed, and annihilated beneath the stone floor of this funereal edifice ; but such of the last and solemn attestations of their living worth as have been preserved, will long, it is hoped, offer some incentive to the casual reader's virtue, and long remain to excite and to justify the pious hope that the subjects of them have secured the reward of the last and greatest blessing to which human nature can aspire.

Oliver Grace of Gracefield, the said Michael's eldest son ob. 1779.
Mary Dowell of Mantua house, this Oliver's wife, ob. 1765.

Gerald Grace, one of the said Michael's younger sons ob. infans.
1713.

• John Grace of Sheffield the said Michael's 2d son, ob. cœlebs,
1780.

Sheffield Grace of Dublin, the said Michael's 4th son, ob. 1746.
Frances Bagot of Castle Bagot, this Sheffield's wife, ob. 1742. Their only child, Raymond Grace, died in France, and was interred there.

Michael Grace of Gracefield, the 2d Oliver's eldest son, ob. 1785.
Mary Plunket of Dunsoghly Castle, this Michael's wife, ob. 1797.

Richard Grace of Southville, M. P. ob. 1801, (eldest son of William Grace, who was 3d son of the 1st Michael Grace of Gracefield, and was (in 1777) with Mary Harford his wife (in 1799) interred in the parish church of St. Giles in the fields at London. Jane Evans of Bulgaden-Hall, this Richard's wife, ob. 1804.

“ How populous! how vital is the grave!

“ This is creation's melancholy vault,

“ The vale funereal.”

Young's Night Thoughts.

• This John Grace of Sheffield, who never married, had a son James Grace, of Ballylinan, on whose death in 1815, his property, amounting to about 1500*l.* of annual income, was divided among his three sons John, Michael, and Edmund Grace, of Ballylinan.

The crime of plagiarism will readily be forgiven for borrowing on this occasion the celebrated sentiment of a well known monument.

“ ————— Quorum in hoc mausoleo conduntur ossa,
Quales fuerint
Ultimo die constabit.”

Of the disclosures on that day some will be terrible, and all be awful. But many, very many of them, let us humbly trust, will shew to the exulting souls many a mutual virtue that has shrunk in this world's commerce from the gaze of mankind. The awakening to a resurrection has been very expressively described in the monument of Mrs. Middleton of Chirk-castle, at the beautiful church of Wrexham in Denbighshire. The angel “ breathes the blast” through his trumpet; she hears the call, bursts the tomb, and, in an attitude of aspiration, stretches out her arms to the heavens opened to receive her. Roubiliac, who dramatised in sculpture Mrs. Nightingale's tomb in Westminster-abbey, was here the artist; but the idea is said to have been taken from a monument in Switzerland.

In the whole circle of political economy, there is certainly no one single point on which a keener interest has always fixed itself for domestic practical purposes, than on a comparative relationship of prices, as bearing upon the sales of land at different periods.* A scale of the prices paid for labour like-

* Theorists greatly err, who maintain that in Ireland, as in England, the value of land determines the value of labour and of the necessities of life. If in our country, the peasant's daily hire be now from ten pence to a shilling; and if the average price of beef and

wise, in all its shapes, as connected with property, is also too desirable to require any apology for giv-

mutton be less than 5d. a pound, what are we to suppose the value of these to have been a century ago in this neighbourhood under the following circumstances? It appears from the original MS. of a rentall, made for Michael Grace of Gracefield, on the death of his father Oliver in 1708, that that part of his estate which lay in the adjoining parish of Rathaspeck, being about 13:0 acres, distant between 3 and 4 miles to the north west of this church, was let at something less than 3s. 6d. an acre. Most of it did not produce above 2s. 6d. and much of it only 2s. 2d. though, indeed for part it the then high rent of 4s. 4d. an acre was paid. The townland of Killeacle in particular, was held at 2s. 6d. an acre, and it is now let at 2l. an acre. So very great a disproportion between the past and present value of land, is however certainly not universal. The same rentall informs us, that part of that gentleman's estate in the county of Kilkenny, and not above three miles distant from the populous city of that county, was then let at the acreable rent of 6s. of which 167 acres have been this present year (1819) relet at 1l. 15s. per acre. From the rentalls at Gracefield, similar comparisons might be made in reference to land within five miles of Dublin, and within three miles of Elphin, county of Roscommon, as well as to land in other parts of this county; but they in general almost exclusively tell in favour of the proprietor, and shew the poor man's labour, and the price of provisions to be in Ireland, very disproportionately influenced by the value of land. The mind, however, can never rest on the accuracy of such deductions formed on a large scale, as applicable to the whole of the country, until its actual state and capabilities be more fully developed. But the Parochial Survey of Ireland would, if complete, afford very satisfactory data, as from the minuteness of its subdivisions, it elicits facts from every portion of the territorial surface, and in its comprehension finally includes the whole. It is to be regretted that its completion should require to be spoken of in dubious terms, but on comparing the magnitude of the undertaking with the resources of an individual, however praiseworthy the public spirit that excited the attempt is to be deemed, its continuance, unless aided by means more extensive, is an object rather of desire than of expectation. Scotland has indeed attained this object; or to borrow a metaphor from its indefatigable and truly patriotic compiler, the capstone has been placed on the summit of the statistical pyramid. For not only has every parish been analyzed and

ing them here. The true justification, we will not say, excuse, of such statements, is the earnest wish

laid before the public, but its contents have been digested and compressed into county reports, from which has been formed a general report, presenting a summary view of the country, its capabilities, and resources, and exhibiting a proud portrait of the man by whom, and of the country out of which it was composed. If the labour of compilation be greater with respect to Ireland in consequence of its greater extent, and (it must be added) its less perfect civil organization, it is on the other hand lessened by the preceding example of the neighbouring country, animating from its success, and simplifying the process by the lessons of its experience. England likewise, now the great laboratory of literature for the world, is deficient in this respect. Abounding in local history and topography, it is still without the materials for a general survey: a confused and distorted image might, perhaps, be collected from these scattered and imperfect fragments, but the uniform mirror is wanting to exhibit a perfect whole. Yet—to return to our own country—the attempt now making forbids us to despond. In the season of prosperity, when wealth and plenty teemed to superabundance, such enquiries, though then most easily carried on, were least thought of; no necessity then appeared for searching after new channels of industry, or, for resources hitherto untouched. But the season of reverse compels the nation to look into itself, to scrutinize every part, in the hope that somewhere will be found those veins of plenty which lay concealed in the season of plethoric health. Where streams of water are copious, we squander that precious element unthinkingly; we dig for wells in the desert. Hence we are led to conclude that a sense of general want will induce the many to combine their efforts for the completion of a work, which, simple in its detached parts, may be made the great basis of national vigour and prosperity: and what is government but the concentration of individual energies? The progress of our more sedulous continental neighbours should be a further stimulus to exertion in this primary department of political economy. The statistical survey of France according to departments, commenced under Bonaparte, is continued, though with relaxed energy, by the Bourbons. Nay, this active and inquisitive people have gone still further; not content with analyzing their domestic resources, they have extended their views to Great Britain. An engineer of some note, M. Charles Dupin, who has already gained himself a name as the author of scientific travels through these islands,

which most thoughtful readers of history must have experienced, that similar matters of account should

has announced his intention of publishing a work on our great military, naval, and civil establishments. A late French work also presents us with the following highly interesting statistical view of Europe, affording a very curious display of the comparative state of its several component parts.

Europe contains in superficies, 153,529 square geographic miles, of 15 to a degree, or only 1-16 of the continental superficies of the whole earth. Its population is estimated at 160 millions and a half; which gives, one with another, 1177 inhabitants to each square geographic mile. It should always be remembered, that this population is very unequally divided; for if in the Low Countries, for example, we reckon 4650 inhabitants to a square mile, Russia contains but 447; Sweden 362; and Norway only 118.

Europe contains 17 nations; 1st, nations speaking the dialects derived from the Latin language, 61 millions; 2d, Teutonic nations, 54 millions; 3d, Slavonians, 46 millions; 4th, Celts 3,720,000; 5th, Tartars, 3,500,000; 6th, Magyars, 3,250,000; 7th, Greeks, 2,100,000; 8th, Finns, 1,800,000; 9th, Cimmenians, 1,610,000; 10th, Basques, 630,000; 11th, Arnants, 330,000; 12th, Maltese, 80,000; 13th, Circassians, 8,000; 14th, Samoeides, 2,100; 15, Jews, 2,060,000; 16th, Gipsies, 340,000; and 17th, Armenians, 150,000.

The Roman Catholics are in number about 100 millions; the Protestants of different Communions, about 42 millions; the schismatic Greeks, 32 millions; the Menonists, 240,000; the Methodists, 190,000; the Unitarians, 50,000; the Quakers, 40,000; the Mahometans, 2,630,000; the Jews, 2,060,000; and the Herrnhutters, 40,000.

In classing out each state according to its superficies, its population, its ordinary revenues, and the contributive proportion of each individual towards the public burdens, we find that they should occupy the following order:—

Superficies.— 1st, Russia; 2d, Sweden; 3d, Austria; 4th, France 5th, Turkey; 6th, Spain; 7th, Great Britain; 8th, Prussia; 9th,

have been preserved for their examination. We cannot therefore in consonance with this principle more profitably conclude the present sketch, than by detailing every particular of work and materials used in the erection of this building. Such a statement is indeed here given upon a small scale, but it will not the less afford some certain data by which local expenses may hereafter be fairly estimated; and from which deductions may be drawn of solid uti-

Germany; 10th, Denmark; 11th, the Two Sicilies; 12th, Portugal; 13th, Sardinia; 14th, the Netherlands; 15th, Switzerland; 16th, the Ecclesiastical States; and 17th, Tuscany, &c.

Population.—1st, Russia; 2d, France; 3d, Austria; 4th, Great Britain; 5th, Germany; 6th, Spain; 7th, Prussia; 8th, Turkey; 9th, the Two Sicilies; 10th, the Netherlands; 11th, Sardinia; 12th, Portugal; 13th, Sweden; 14th, the Ecclesiastical States; 15th, Switzerland; 16th, Denmark; 17th, Tuscany, &c.

Revenue.—1st, Great Britain; 2d, France; 3d, Russia; 4th, Austria; 5th, Germany; 6th, the Netherlands; 7th, Prussia; 8th, Spain, 9th, Turkey; 10th, Portugal; 11th, the Two Sicilies; 12th, Sardinia; 13th, Sweden; 14th, Denmark; 15th, the Ecclesiastical States; 16th, Tuscany; and 17th, Switzerland, &c.

Contributive portion of each individual towards the public charges.—This last calculation is the most curious.—It demonstrates what each individual pays annually, one with another—namely, in England, 52 francs, 17 cents; in the Netherlands, 29f. 5c.; in France, 19f. 71 c.; in Germany, 16f. 6c.; in Russia, 15f. 85c.; in Denmark, 14f. 60c.; in Portugal, 13f. 58c.; in Prussia, 13f. 14c. in Spain, 12f. 60c.; in Sardinia, 12f. 5c.; in Austria, 11f. 68c.; in the Ecclesiastical States, 9f. 49c.; in Sweden, 9f. 31c.; in Tuscany, 9f. 12c. in Turkey, 9f. 4c.; in the Two Sicilies, 7f. 97c.; and in Switzerland, 5f. 47c. This last is the weakest of all the European States.

lity, as well as matter furnished for retrospective views and curious comparisons.

	£	s.	d.
Architectural working plans, drawings of particular parts and specification of the work and materials required for the Grace-Mausoleum at Arles, ... }	10	0	0
290 barrels of lime delivered at 10d. per barrel—herring-gauge measure, ... }	12	1	8
116 loads of sand from Dublin-hill pits (distance 2 miles) delivered at 10d. per load, 8 cwt. to the load, ... }	4	16	8
332 loads of Skehena facing-stone, quar- ried at 8½d. per load—9 cwt. to the load }	11	14	3
Carriage of 332 loads of Skehenastone (dis- tance 2½ miles) to Arles at 10d. per load, }	13	16	8
540 loads of Ballynegall rubble-stone, quarried and delivered (distance ¼ of a mile) at 4d. per load, ... }	9	0	0
200 loads of serviceable rubble-stone from the walls of the old burial place now pulled down, worth 3d. per load, ... }	2	10	0
90 square yards of Boley stone-flags be- tween 2 and 3 inches thick, for roofing and flooring, at 1s. 2d. per yard, ... }	5	5	0
Carriage of 90 yards of Boley stone-flags (distance 4 miles) to Arles at 4d. per yard, }	1	10	0
21 feet 8 inches of cut-stone door-jambs for the north and south end walls exe- cuted at Stradbally (distance 10 miles) and delivered at 3s. 3d. per running foot, }	3	11	6
25 feet 6 inches of cut-stone for two gothic door heads (measurement and half) delivered at 3s. 3d. per running foot, }	4	2	8
4 U			

Descriptive Sketch

	£.	s.	d.
12 feet of cut-stone for sills of 2 gothic doors, delivered at 2s. 2d. per foot, ...	1	6	0
17 feet 5 inches of cut-stone drapery heads or labels for inscription and armorial tablets over the 2 gothic doors, delivered at 3s. 3d. per running foot, ...	2	16	9
12 feet of cut-stone for 2 gothic spike-holes to ventilate lower or burial vault, delivered at 2s. 2d. per foot, ...	1	6	0
2 cut-stone gothic quatrefoil windows in gable ends, (viz. north and south) to light upper or monumental chamber, delivered at £1 14s. 1½d. each, ...	3	8	3
21 feet 8 inches of cut stone window-jambs of blank windows, on the east and west flanks, delivered at 3s. 3d. per running foot, ...	3	11	6
15 feet of cut-stone for two gothic window heads (measurement and half) delivered at 3s. 3d. per running foot, ...	2	8	8
7 feet of cut-stone for stools of 2 blank gothic windows on flanks, delivered at 2s. 2d. per foot, ...	0	15	2
73 feet 6 inches of cut-stone architrave mouldings for 4 old mural monuments of black marble, formerly inside Grace's chapel, and now on the east and west exterior walls, executed at Carlow (distance 5 miles) and delivered at 2s. 6d. per running foot, ...	9	3	9
Materials and labour in repairing and cleaning the four old marble monuments on exterior walls, ...	2	12	6

	£	s.	d.
2 cut-stone gothic pinnacles, richly ornamented with carved work 6 feet 8 inches high, terminating the ridge-course over the north and south gable-ends, executed at Kilkenny, ...	12	15	0
A cut-stone inscription tablet 3 feet 4 inches square with a semi-recta moulding or architrave over north entrance,	2	10	0
Lettering inscription tablet with 122 Greek and English capitals, at 2d. per letter,	1	0	4
Lettering do. with 519 small English at 1½ per letter,	3	8	7½
A cut-stone armorial tablet 3 feet square with quarterings, crests, &c. and a semi-recta moulding over south entrance,	7	10	0
A model of arms in full size for stone carver to work by,	1	2	9
Carriage of 2 pinnacles and 2 tablets from Kilkenny (distance 22 miles) to Arles,	2	0	0
Mason work, iron and lead in erecting pinnacles and tablets,	1	12	3
38 feet of punched-stone eave-course, 8 inches thick and 2 feet 8 inches deep, executed at Stradbally (distance 10 miles) and delivered at 2s. 6d. per running foot,	4	15	0
4 large quoins or angular punched stones of eave-course 8 feet, delivered at 2s. 6d. per foot,	1	0	0
19 feet of punched stone ridge-course 5 inches thick and 2 feet 3 inches wide, delivered at 3s. 6d. per running foot, ...	3	6	6
The head mason and foreman for 14 weeks attendance,	18	15	9

	£	s.	d.
Masons and stone cutters at 3s. per day for 14 weeks,	72	4	8½
Labourers at 1s. per day for 14 weeks,	17	14	5
Smith's work, iron and lead--English iron at 2s. per stone, Swedish at 4s. 4d. per stone, and old lead at 5d. per pound,	12	18	11½
Pointing outside walls, dressing and pointing stone roof,	3	10	0
5 stone weight of Roman cement for pointing the joints of stone roof at 2s. per stone,	0	10	0
Laying Boley-flags on floors of monu- mental chamber and burial vault, and constructing the stone steps down to the latter—labour only,	4	0	0
33 yards of floating and coating on walls of monumental chamber marked in courses in imitation of stone at 8d. per yard,	1	2	0
31 yards of do. do. on the gothic arched ceiling of do. at 9d. per yard, ...	1	3	3
70 feet of stucco moulding 3 inches broad, forming the gothic heads over the square wall pieces in joints resembling stone for do. at 6d. per foot,	1	15	0
77½ feet of ditto moulding 4 inches broad, forming the gothic ribs on the arched ceiling of do. marked in the same manner at 8d. per foot, ...	5	18	4
Extra for eight long mitres on do. at 5s. ...	2	0	0
Seven boss flowers 10 inches diameter at the intersections of rib-mouldings of do. at 4s. 4d.	1	10	4

	£	s.	d.
Twelve corbel capitals 1 foot 6 inches high of do. at 10s. ... }	6	0	0
60 yards of gray floating and coating on walls and ceiling of burial vault marked in courses resembling stone at 10d. per yard, ... }	2	10	0
Travelling expences, lodging and subsis- tence at Arles of the Dublin stucco plaisterer. ... }	5	0	0
Quarrying, delivering and dressing of cut-stone stillings for coffins, ... }	4	15	0
Iron frame work for hanging the gothic doors executed in Dublin at 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. with hinges, bolts and screws, and smith's time in putting up do. ... }	6	7	0
620 large water-headed nails for the out- side studding of the two doors, at 1s. 3d. per dozen, ... }	3	4	7
Two large spring and tumbler copper- warded box locks with six keys, ... }	2	13	0
Miscellaneous expences, viz., two gothic oak doors 8 feet 6 inches high, 3 feet wide and 3 inches thick. Nails for do. and for centres of both arches. Two iron frames for quatrefoil windows, leading and glazing do., and strong wire work for the outside of do. <i>Horse-</i> <i>work</i> , conveying scaffolding-timber, linings, and centres of the two arches from and to Gracefield, &c. at 2s. 6d. a-day for car, horse and man. Ropes for scaffolding. <i>Carpenters'</i> <i>work</i> on gothic doors, centres of arches, &c. at 2s. 6d. a-day. Mes- sengers, refreshment to men, &c. ... }	22	13	10

£353 4 1 $\frac{1}{2}$

All the ash and deal timber used in the progress of the building; viz. the centres, planks, cross and upright beams for the arches of both chambers; the boards and poles for scaffolding, &c. &c. were felled in Gracefield woods, sawed up and prepared there, and are not included in the foregoing account; but if even to these were also added the exterior and interior marble monuments containing the several preceding inscriptions, the gross amount of the whole, comprising every possible particular of expense, would still very little exceed £600. while it may with confidence be asserted, on the authority of an eminent architect, that a similar undertaking could not be completed in England for even double that sum.

FINIS.

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